

## Libyan envoy arrives with message

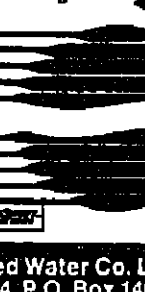
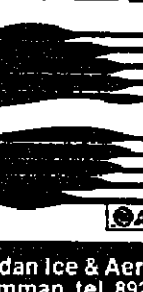

AMMAN (J.T.) — Libya's representative to the Arab League and ambassador to Tunisia, Abdul Ati Al Obaidi, arrived in Amman Saturday via Ramtha on a two-day visit to Jordan. Obaidi told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that he was carrying a written message from Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi to His Majesty King Hussein on the current Arab situations. The Libyan envoy is accompanied by Libyan Ambassador in Damascus Abdul Qadir Al Warfalli. Obaidi, one of several Libyan envoys touring the Arab states with messages to Arab leaders from Qadhafi, delivered a message to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Friday.

# Jordan Times

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## AROUND THE WORLD...

### British diplomat holds 'useful' talks in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — The first British diplomat to visit Iran in more than a year held what he described as a useful first session of talks with senior Foreign Ministry officials Saturday. David Reddaway, who is expected to spend three weeks in Tehran, said he would meet the officials again Sunday. He declined to comment on the issues discussed. Before leaving London, he said he hoped to make progress in securing the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon.

### Iranian foreign minister in Damascus

DAMASCUS (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived Saturday for talks expected to touch on foreign hostages in Lebanon and other issues of mutual concern. Velayati was welcomed at the airport by his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Al Sharaa. In a statement upon arrival, Velayati said he was carrying a letter from Iranian President Ali Khamenei to President Hafez Al Assad of Syria. After Syria, Velayati is scheduled to go to Libya.

### Mine explodes in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A limpet mine exploded Saturday in a shopping centre, seriously injuring a black security guard, police and witnesses said. The bomb was apparently contained in a parcel outside a boutique. It exploded as the guard was approaching it, said a nearby shopkeeper. The guard was hospitalised with unspecified injuries. A white man and woman were slightly injured in the explosion at 11:35 a.m. (0935 GMT), on the lower level of the Hyde Park shopping mall, which houses movie theatres, a supermarket, boutiques and high-priced delicatessen shops.

### Suspected Basque bombs damage French firms

MADRID (AP) — Extremists went on a bombing spree against French firms in northern Spain Saturday, setting off explosions that caused extensive damages but no injuries at six auto dealerships and a dairy, officials said. Local government spokesman said they suspected the Basque separatist group ETA, which has attacked French-linked targets in the past to protest expulsions of suspected ETA members from France to Spain.

### President of Soviet Turkmenistan sacked

MOSCOW (R) — The head of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Turkmenistan has been relieved of his post for "defects in his work," TASS said Saturday. Bally Yazkulyev, 57, who held what is effectively the desert republic's presidency for almost 10 years, will be replaced by one of his deputy prime ministers, Roza Bazarova. The official Soviet news agency did not give any further details of the reasons for his ousting at a session of the republic's Supreme Soviet, addressed by Turkmenistan Communist Party chief Saparmurat Niyazov.

### Soviet INF experts inspect U.S. sites

FRANKFURT (AP) — Soviet missile experts fanned out Saturday to inspect four U.S. military sites in West Germany covered by the superpower agreement eliminating intermediate-range nuclear weapons (INF). The 40 Soviet inspectors left the U.S. Rhein Main air force base near Frankfurt in the morning, accompanied by American military personnel, the air force said. "The Soviet teams made their declaration at 0815 (0615 GMT) this morning and notified United States and German authorities of the destination of each team," said an air force statement. "All four sites available for inspection in Germany will be visited by Soviet teams today."

### 30 killed as buses collide in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Two buses collided in northern Iran, killing 30 people and injuring 50, and two earthquakes rocked the southern city of Bushehr, Tehran Radio reported Saturday. The radio said the two vehicles collided on the heavily travelled Tehran-Tabriz highway Friday. Other than reporting the casualties, it gave no further details. The earthquakes were centred at Bushehr in southern Iran and measured 6 and 6.2 on the Richter scale, the radio reported in a broadcast monitored in Nicosia. It did not say when the quakes occurred. Injuries and damage had not been reported so far, the radio said.

### 14 villagers massacred in Philippines

MANILA (R) — Machete-wielding men massacred 14 villagers, including three children, in the Philippines Saturday, police said. The men broke into the homes of three families outside the city of Tacloban in the central province of Leyte and reportedly raped two women before killing the group and escaping, police said. Two children survived. The killings are believed to be over a family feud, police said.

### Officials flee S. Yemen, opposition says

SANAA (R) — Several high-ranking South Yemeni officials and air force officers fled to Sanaa to join ousted President Ali Nasser Mohammad, an opposition statement said. It said the deserters included Hisham Hael, deputy minister of fisheries, Abdullah Abdul Jabar, head of the Western Europe department in the ruling Marxist Party, an airforce major, a pilot and Nasser Haythem, head of the financial department at the Foreign Ministry in Aden. The statement, issued in Nasser Mohammad's name, said the men reached Sanaa earlier this month after travel restrictions between the two Yemens were eased in July.

### IRA claims Ostend attack

OSTEND, Belgium (AP) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) Saturday claimed responsibility for the killing of a British soldier who was gunned down in his car at a traffic light in this North Sea port. The IRA statement to the news media in Britain also said: "We reiterate our call to civilians and the families of soldiers not to travel with crown forces personnel." Belgian police, meanwhile, continued to search for two men who carried out the attack Friday night on Richard Michael Heakin, 38, of the Royal Regiment of Wales' First Battalion. He had a wife, a nine-year-old son and seven-year-old daughter.

### S. African-Argentine row grows

PRETORIA (AP) — Argentina's consul will be expelled from South Africa within 30 days if the Argentine government doesn't reconsider its expulsion order against the South African consul, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha said Saturday. In a message sent from Vienna, where he is participating in negotiations for South Africa to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Botha said Argentine Consul H.R. Basso would be given the same amount of time to leave the country as South Africa's consul, Dirk de Wet, was given, unless Argentina reconsiders its decision. Argentina earlier in the week ordered de Wet and three other South Africans out of the country for allegedly violating their visas. The government said they had wanted to visit Argentina for talks with the consul, but then participated in a pro-South Africa seminar organised by the consulate.

## Delegates present PLO assessment

# King explains W. Bank decision to PLO team

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein met Saturday with a high-level delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and discussed Jordanian-Palestinian relations in the wake of the Kingdom's decision to sever formal ties with the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra said the monarch received Mahmoud Abbas, Abdul Hourani, Abdul Razak Al

Hassan, a senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"The delegation presented to the King a full evaluation on the Palestinians' current situation and the PLO directives following Jordan's recent measures to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank," Petra said.

It said those measures "enhanced the organisation's role worldwide and gave it an international prominence."

The agency said the King "explained to the delegation the national motives and considerations of the Jordanian moves and

(Continued on page 5)

## Palestinian shot dead, 11 wounded in W. Bank, Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead one Palestinian and wounded eight others in the occupied Gaza Strip Saturday.

In another incident, a pro-Israeli Palestinian opened fire and wounded three Arabs from the village of Beitin, officials at Rafidiyah hospital in Nablus told the AP.

Saturday's fatality brought the Palestinian death toll to 252 since the Palestinian uprising broke out in the West Bank and Gaza Dec. 8, 1987.

An Arab journalist, who asked not to be named, said Palestinians in the Gaza Strip refrained from using cars, buses and taxis Saturday to protest Israeli orders calling on them to buy new automobile licence plates. Many stores in Gaza City were shut because their owners could not

drive to work.

In the open air vegetable market of Rafah, on the Egyptian border, protesters hurled stones at Israeli troops who opened fire to disperse them, an army spokesman said.

One protester was killed and three others sustained unspecified wounds, including a 15-year-old girl, said the spokesman and officials at Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis. The officials identified the dead man as Mohammad 'Eid Abu Rizek.

Protests later spread to Khan Yunis, where five protesters were shot and sustained leg wounds, the hospital officials said.

The clashes were apparently ignited when two Palestinians, one from Rafah and the other from Khan Yunis, died this week in a fire set by arsonists in or Yehuda, outside Tel Aviv, according to the Israeli version of the incident.

The fire was set overnight while the Palestinians, who worked in Israel, were asleep in their hut. Police have yet to arrest any suspects. A third Arab was seriously injured in the fire.

The army, meanwhile, clamped curfews on four neighbourhoods in Rafah, the military spokesman said.

Another Arab journalist told the AP three Palestinians from the village of Beitin were shot and wounded by an Arab known to collaborate with Israel.

He said the man opened fire at a Palestinian flag hanging on a telephone pole and when villagers rushed towards him, he directed his gunfire at them.

An official at Rafidiyah hospital in Nablus said one of the wounded men, Taisir Ghanem, 18, who was hit in the groin and operated on, told him he was shot by a collaborator.

Another Palestinian sustained serious head wounds, the official said.

In another development, three Palestinian workers were severely beaten by Jewish assailants while at work in the Tel Aviv suburb of Givat Shmuel, the Israeli ILM reported.

The assailants also attacked the Arabs' Jewish employer who rushed to the aid of his workers and smashed the windows of his truck.

The attack was unprovoked, ILM reported.

## S. Africa admits having nuclear arms capability

VIENNA (R) — South Africa has the capability to produce nuclear weapons, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said Saturday.

Asked whether South Africa had a nuclear bomb, Botha told a news conference: "We have the capability to make one... we have the capability to do so should we want to."

But Botha, speaking after talks with U.S., Soviet and British officials on the possibility of Pretoria signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), declined to say more.

Asked whether South Africa already had nuclear weapons, he said: "I'm not going to enlarge on that statement."

South Africa has long been widely believed to be developing a nuclear bomb. Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman last year accused Pretoria of testing nuclear weapons.

But Botha said his country would not be rushed into signing the 1970 NPT, under which it

would have to negotiate an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) allowing agency officials to visit all its nuclear plants.

South Africa allows IAEA inspectors to visit some of its nuclear plants under a "safeguards" programme, aimed at halting the spread of nuclear weapons from the five traditional weapons states — the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France.

But the IAEA has long sought access to a uranium enrichment plant near Pretoria capable of making weapons-grade material.

Botha said Pretoria would want to know "whether the provisions of the NPT would be applied to us in a non-discriminatory manner if we are to consider joining it."

"I can certainly not advise my government, nor can our experts, if we are not satisfied that there is something in it for us. This does not take place overnight."

## Najibullah seen facing 'crucial survival test'

KABUL (Agencies) — A battle for control of the Afghan provincial capital of Kanduz could be a crucial test of the Kabul government's ability to survive a Soviet troop withdrawal, Western diplomats said Saturday.

But the diplomats warned against counting on Afghan leader Najibullah too soon, saying rebels had yet to prove they could hold a provincial capital for more than a few days.

"The regime may be shaky, but there is no sign it is going to collapse in the immediate future," one diplomat commented.

As the withdrawal of some 100,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan neared its halfway point, the mortar and artillery battle between Afghan government forces and the rebels was continuing around Kanduz.

Kanduz lies just 60 kilometres south of the Soviet border. The guerrillas launched their new offensive against the town early this week just after Soviet troops pulled out.

The town has been under daily

rocket attack. The bazaar has been open only a few hours a day with some merchants openly displaying portraits of rebel leader Shah Massoud, the sources told Reuters.

On Friday evening, a Soviet military source acknowledged that the rebels were holding about two-thirds of the city, with entrenched government forces controlling the airport area.

The new rebel offensive is seen as a test for the Afghan army to show its fighting ability once its Soviet backers are gone. Half the Soviet troops are due to be pulled out by Monday, and the rest by Feb. 15.

### Zia hits India

Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq has said Saturday India and the Soviet Union were collaborating to prevent an Islamic government from taking power in Afghanistan.

Talking with a panel of Pakistani newspaper editors, Zia said the Soviet Union was behind India's belated interest in Afghanistan's future.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday holds talks with a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation in a meeting attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and senior officials (Petra photo)

## Royal Decree names four new senators

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday replaced four members of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate). A Royal Decree carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Ahmad Obaidat, Akel Al Fayed, Nizam Al Sharabi and Jamal Al Khreisheh were appointed senators in place of Hikmat Al Masri, Walid Salah, Abdul Majid Shoman and Nayef Al Khreisheh.

The appointments take effect immediately.

Obaidat served as prime minister before Zaid Rifai formed his government in April 1985. Akel Al Fayed served as speaker of the now-dissolved Lower House of Parliament.

Sharabi is a former cabinet member and Khreisheh is a tribal leader.

## Gulf combatants exchange flowers

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iranian and Iraqi soldiers exchanged flowers and kisses instead of bullets after hearing of a ceasefire in the Gulf war, Iraqi soldiers said Saturday.

The soldiers, returning on leave from the front, said in Baghdad the Iranians broke the ice at several points along the 1,200-kilometre front by walking across.

"They gave us flowers. We gave them flowers too and anything else we could find," one soldier told Reuters.

The fraternisation followed U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's announcement last Monday of a ceasefire date in a war which has lasted nearly eight years and cost an estimated one million lives.

At one point, Iraqi and Iranian troops met for an impromptu swim in a river which had separated them. "We laughed, joked, threw water at each other and kissed each other on the cheek," a soldier said.

On the northern front, Iranian soldiers waving white flags

brought cold drinks to the Iraqis and were given watches in return, another soldier said.

Iranians and Iraqis also fired in the air to celebrate. "They were pointing and gesturing to say, 'from now on we only fire at the sky,'" one Iraqi said.

Iraq's United Nations mission said in a statement Friday that Iranian troops fired hundreds of shells at Iraqi positions Thursday and Friday.

It was the second such complaint in 24 hours. Iraq accused Iran Thursday of firing more than 400 shells and mortar bombs at positions on the southern front. Tehran also denied that report.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted what it called an informed source at the general command as saying Saturday that Baghdad was making false allegations.

Major-General Slavko Jovic of Yugoslavia, newly appointed commander of the U.N. Gulf ceasefire observer team, met officials at U.N. headquarters late Friday before taking up his new post.

## Jordan celebrates Islamic New Year

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday celebrates the Hijra New Year with religious ceremonies to be held in various mosques in Jordan.

The anniversary is that of the emigration of the Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina on his mission to spread Islam throughout the Arabian Peninsula, and later to the outside world.

Speaking to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on the eve of the New Year, Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary-General Abdul Salam Al Abbadi said the occasion "offers an opportunity for Muslims to celebrate the real beginning of Islam with its cultural, social, political, spiritual and military institutions paving the

## King receives greetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday telephoned His Majesty King Hussein to offer his greetings on the occasion of the Islamic New Year. The King also received congratulatory cables on the occasion from government leaders and senior officials. Among those sending the cables were Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shakar, the directors-general of the Public Security, General Intelligence and Civil Defence departments and senior officials from various parts of the Kingdom.

The cables expressed pride in the King and in the efforts he exerts in support of Arab/ Islamic issues and in reinforcing Arab solidarity.

They also recalled the Prophet Mohammad's sacrifices for Islam and the role Al Hussein Ibn Ali and King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein played for the Great Arab Revolt and for attaining independence for Arab countries.

ground for the propagation of the new religion to the whole world."

"It was because of the great significance of the emigration (Hijra) that the commander of the faithful, Omar Ibn Al Khattab, decided to consider the start of the emigration as the date for the beginning of the Islamic calendar."

Abbadi said that it was in Medina, where the Prophet Mohammad took refuge from the people of Quraish, that all Islamic institutions were first established. Preachers at various mosques in the Kingdom have been entrusted with giving sermons explaining the meanings of Hijra and to organise seminars at Islamic cultural centres to mark the occasion, Abbadi said.

He said the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs would hold a celebration at the Hussein Mosque in Amman Monday afternoon and notable Muslim scholars would address the worshippers.

All government departments and public institutions will remain closed Sunday for the occasion.

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Al-Hijra Year



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## Of Places and People

## In the Land of Lot

By Dr. Nicola Ziadeh

DURING the short period I lived in Nazareth, I attended Sunday School. One important part of the activities which the supervisor performed was narrating Biblical stories. That was a new experience for me. Our teacher then was a good story-teller; and stories from the Bible were, if I remember correctly, a matter of conviction. I listened with interest to the story of the Creation. How great it was that God made man out of earth. What I probably missed, then, was that God made man after His image, and after His likeness. That was incomprehensible to me. But then Adam and Eve committed a sin. They were punished. I saw their punishment in a double sense. First, they must have felt ashamed to be naked suddenly. Nakedness was to me then the most shameful way people could appear. I had had no experience of a beach and bathing suits; this was to come later. But, for me,

the other side of their sin was that they robbed us of an easy life. Our teacher, I am sure, must have tried to imprint in our minds the idea of the "original sin"; but that was beyond my comprehension.

The one story which caught my imagination was that of Lot and his wife. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah had done great evil in the eyes of the Lord; and "the outcry against them was great and their sin was very grave." So He punished them in this way: "Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from out of heaven; and He overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground." However Lot, his wife and their two daughters were saved, because they had been ordered out of the place. But they were warned not to look back. Lot's wife, who was walking behind

him, "looked back and she became a pillar of salt."

The dramatisation of the story by our teacher left such an impression on me. Probably the horror of the punishment, probably the statement that a person may become a pillar of salt and many other things horrified me; and this remained with me for some time. We were also told that the Dead Sea and the volcanic mountains which surround it were the result of this "brimstone and fire" which fell from heaven.

More elevating and sublime were the two stories told by our Sunday School teacher concerning the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan, a short distance before its entry into the Dead Sea, and of Jesus' forty days fasting at the top of Mount Qarantuli (Qarantuli, which overlooks the southern parts of the Jordan Valley, and the Dead Sea).

So when the principal of our college announced that he was

organising a visit to Jericho, the Dead Sea, the River Jordan and Mount Qarantuli during the coming Christmas vacation. I hastened to register for it. My mother approved of the trip. The college, it was stated, would pay for transport and food. Arrangements were made for us to stay at the Coptic and Greek Orthodox monasteries or at the mosque. Students who wished to do so, i.e. who could afford it, could stay at the hotel for 15 (Egyptian) piastres (= about three shillings of the currency of the day). I stayed at the two monasteries with a number of students.

The journey from Jerusalem to Jericho took almost a full day by carriage (the return journey being an ascent from 390 metres below sea-level to about 750 metres above, took a little longer).

Needless to say I kept the idea of looking for the pillar of salt

which had been Lot's wife, for myself. But on our way from Jericho to the Dead Sea and back I found no trace of such a thing. I could not believe that the area could have been the result of immediate "burning"; neither could I understand what our teacher had told us. I think it was then that I, consciously or otherwise, began to draw some question marks about the validity of Old Testament stories. I was not, I believe, in a position to think of them metaphorically.

This experience was of great value to me. It gave me first hand information regarding that part of Palestine. We walked (some students hired donkeys) and enjoyed the warm winter of the region. When I returned I had treasured some knowledge, and this was totally different from what our Sunday School teacher had told me. Later it was explained to me that the whole unusual structure

was the result of geological faults. Now whether God had punished the people of Sodom and Gomorrah in that particular fashion or not was no more my concern.

Jerusalem has a large Coptic monastery, which had been there for centuries. It is not its history which concerns me at present. My aunt, like many people, had rented rooms at the monastery. I visited her frequently. One day she took me to meet the superior of the place. I went with some hesitation. I had had some unpleasant experience with some high ranking Greek monks at the Greek Orthodox monastery. But when I met Father Yuhanna Alf Antuni Al Bahjuri, I changed my mind. To begin with he treated me as a human being, not as a kid who was seeking his blessings. His questions centred around our college library and the books we read. Our library, by the way, was then a modest collection of a few hundred volumes. His own

library, as I could judge, was bigger than ours. He merited me to borrow some of his own books to read. I did and made that a practice.

Then the summer vacation was approaching. He gave me a few volumes to take with me to Jenin. Not religious books — nothing of the sort. One volume was a collection of articles by Shibli Shmayyil, a Lebanese physician, who lived in Egypt, wrote about sciences and was a Darwinist.

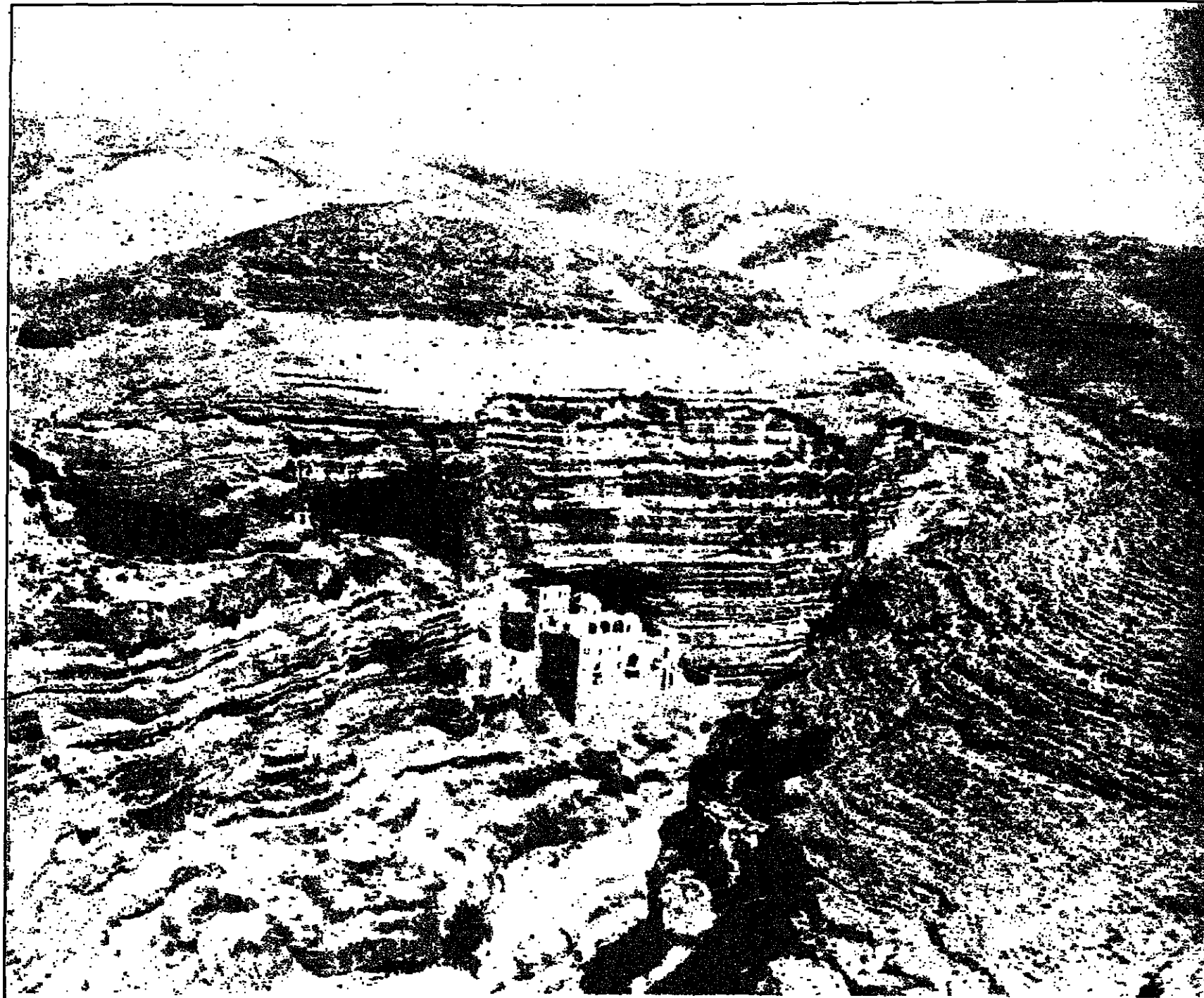
I spent the summer (1923) at Jenin and Nazareth. Although I read other books, I concentrated on Shmayyil's work. The man, an intellectual leader of the modern Arab renaissance (19th-20th century) was an adamant believer in the need for Arabs to throw themselves completely into the fields of sciences. Literature, law, legal studies and traditional philosophy could not serve a renaissance in his days. Mathematics, physics, chemistry and the like,

he held, constituted the needs of the Arabs. Further, he was a patron of free thinking and the freedom of individuals and society. To him the shackles which bound the Arabs, irrespective of their origin and nature, had to be broken. He was, as I appreciated him then, a man who looked forward — a futurist, if you wish. He did not wish the Arabs to look backwards — forward, forward, forward was his theme. He did not just shout. He pointed the way.

So when on July 2, 1924 I received my diploma and was to be appointed as teacher, I had treasured from these three years at the college much more than many others of my class did. I collected some academic knowledge — but I had learned many values, had formed an attitude of doubt and developed an assertion for theoretical information — literature, law and subjects!



(Left) Salt crystals on the shore of the Dead Sea were interpreted by the Bible as being remains of people punished by God for their sins and (right) the Orthodox monastery of St. George on the Mount of Temptation in the wilderness near Jericho.



## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

## PROGRAMME ONE

14:00 ..... Koran  
14:20 ..... Programme review  
14:25 ..... Children's programmes  
15:15 ..... Religious programme  
16:00 ..... Historical film  
18:00 ..... News summary in Arabic  
18:05 ..... Local programme  
18:20 ..... Programme on Islamic New Year  
19:10 ..... Local programme  
19:40 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... Seminar on Islamic New Year  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:15 ..... Programme review  
22:20 ..... Local programme  
23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic

## PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... La Chance aux Chansons  
18:30 ..... Rue Carnot  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Classical music  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Documentary "Footsteps"  
21:10 ..... Check it Out  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Magnum  
23:10 ..... Faculty Towers

## RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz FM  
& partly on 9540 KHz, SW  
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07:00 ..... Morning Show  
07:30 ..... Newsdesk  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
10:00 ..... News Summary  
11:05 ..... In Concert  
12:00 ..... News Summary  
12:05 ..... Pop Session  
13:00 ..... News Summary  
13:05 ..... Pop Session cont.  
14:00 ..... News Bulletin  
14:10 ..... Instrumentals  
14:30 ..... Science Report  
15:00 ..... Concert Hour  
16:00 ..... News Summary  
16:05 ..... Old Favorites  
16:30 ..... News Summary  
17:00 ..... Listeners' Choice  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:05 ..... Rhythms and Blues  
19:00 ..... Newsdesk  
19:30 ..... Date with a Star  
20:00 ..... Evening Show  
21:00 ..... News Summary  
21:05 ..... Evening Show continued

## BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 English Songsmiths 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:30 Personal View 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News 10:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News 12:05 Financial News 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Personal View 13:00 News Summary followed by Here's Humphil 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Feature 14:00 World News 14:05 News about Britain 14:15 The A-Z of Hollywood 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsweek 15:15 Multitrack 3 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Sportsworld inc. News Summary 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 Sportsworld 19:00 World News 19:05 News about Britain 19:15 Sportsworld 20:00 World News 20:05 Words 20:15 The Ken Bruce Show 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 From Concert followed by News Summary 22:30 Feature 23:00 World News 23:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Meridian 24:00 News Summary followed by A Life at the UN 00:15 The Idea of Europe 01:00 World News 01:05 From Our Own Correspondent 01:25 Nature Notebook 01:30 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00 World News 02:05 Words 02:15 The Tony Myatt Request Show

## VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1290 & SW 720, 9565, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

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## King congratulates Pakistan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable to Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq expressing good wishes to him on his country's Independence Day.

The King wished President Zia continued health and happiness and the Pakistani people progress and prosperity.

The King, meanwhile, received a cable of good wishes on the anniversary of his accession to the throne from French President Francois Mitterrand.

The president wished the King continued health and happiness, praising the existing ties of friendship between the Jordanian and the French people.

King Hussein received a similar cable from French Prime Minister Michel Rocard.

On the occasion of the King's accession to the throne, a huge rally was held at the University of Jordan. The students carried posters and King Hussein's portrait as they marched across the campus.



AL HUSSEIN VISITS GHQ: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Saturday visited the army headquarters and was met by the Armed Forces Commander in Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and their aides as well as the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force. The King held a brief meeting with Sharif Zaid and later heard a briefing on the Armed Forces (Petra photo)

## Jordan to take part in Arab health ministers talks in Sudan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan has been invited to an emergency meeting by the executive bureau of the Arab Health Ministers Council to be held in Tunis Wednesday, to discuss means of assisting Sudan to deal with the consequences of floods which have displaced at least 1.5 million people and destroyed 83,000 homes.

The invitation came to Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh from Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi in a cable that said the health ministers of Jordan, Tunisia, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Morocco will attend the extraordinary meeting, which will look into measures to provide assistance to Sudan to help it deal with the consequences of the disaster.

On Friday, the National Com-

mittee for Solidarity with Sudan held an emergency meeting to examine the situation in the Arab African country, and decided to dispatch urgent assistance in the form of medical and rescue teams, to carry out relief operations in cooperation with the Sudanese authorities.

The committee, acting upon directives from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, also decided to send a new consignment of medicines, food, construction supplies, as well as water sterilisers and power generators to be used in Sudanese hospitals and medical centres.

The committee issued an appeal to the public to offer contributions to people in Sudan. Last Sunday, Jordan sent off another mission to Sudan to help

implement projects within the framework of a Jordanian-Sudanese cooperation programme for the development of drought and famine stricken regions.

Jordan started sending medical and relief missions, including food supplies, to Sudan following the 1986 drought and famine that hit the Arab country.

Prince Hassan visited Sudan to take a close look at the situation before the missions embarked on relief operations.

The Tunis meeting Wednesday is the first of its kind to discuss assistance to Sudan since December 1987 when it decided to allocate \$800,000 in assistance and relief supplies for Sudan and Lebanon.

## VTC plans to expand training programmes

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Labour's Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) plans to expand its programmes and training services for young men and women, enlisting the help of the private sector to attain the best results, VTC Director General Burhan Shreideh announced Saturday.

The VTC plans to expand horizontally and vertically, providing training in a wide variety of specialisations for 30,000 apprentices in the 1986-1990 five year plan, Shreideh said at the opening of five courses at Ain Al Basha Vocational Training Centre, near Sweileh for VTC instructors.

The instructors teach trainees skills in carpentry, decor, and machine maintenance, according to a VTC official.

Shreideh, in an address to the participants in the week-long course, said the national economy and development "can only be promoted through the proper recruitment of instructors who can skillfully teach the trainees."

A total of 8,802 trainees have graduated from VTC centres since the establishment of the

corporation 11 years ago. Last year's trainees numbered 11,000, Shreideh noted.

Out of the 30,000 to receive training within the five-year plan, 10,000 will take short term courses because of employment in private and public organisations and companies, according to Shreideh.

He said the VTC cooperates with 22 businesses that offer practical training to the apprentices and send employees to VTC centres for higher training.

In implementing the VTC's five year plan, four additional vocational training centres will be established in the Kingdom in the coming two years and five smaller ones will be opened adjacent to major industrial organisations, Shreideh noted.

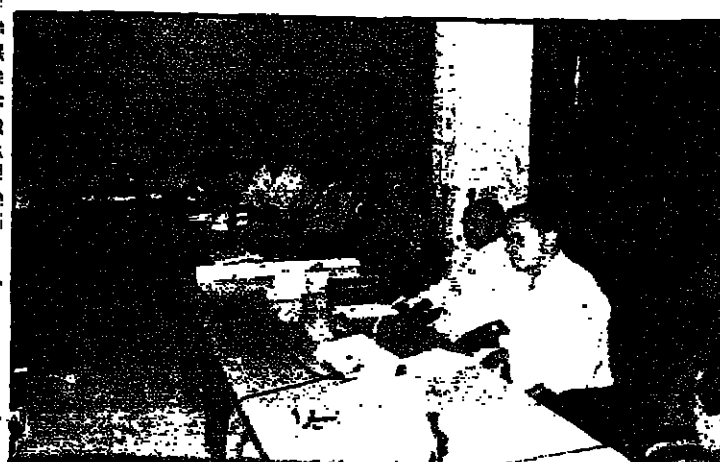
These trainees are needed, he said, to meet the growing demand for skilled manpower in the Arab and Jordanian labour markets.

On Aug. 6, the VTC opened a two-week seminar for VTC instructors. Shreideh then announced that the door was open for training courses at VTC centres. He added that this year no less than 3,400 trainees would be accepted at different centres.

Most of those to be recruited for the new courses, Shreideh said, will be students who completed their third preparatory school but failed to pass the Ministry of Education's admission examinations to secondary school last June.

Earlier this month, the VTC announced it had embarked on short-term training programmes for all able-bodied Jordanians seeking employment in the construction business, hotel management, sales and ready made clothing industries.

The programmes, which are free of charge, were said to last between two and five months, offering participants sufficient skills for employment.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday chairs a meeting at the Aqaba Region Authority during which the region's development plans and environment were discussed (Petra photo)

## Queen voices concern over Aqaba environment

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has expressed concern about environment problems in the Gulf of Aqaba emanating from phosphate powder and its effect on public health and maritime life — knowing that the Red Sea coast abounds with rare maritime which Jordan, the international organisations, and the Royal Society for the Protection of the Environment have been trying to protect from the danger of pollution.

The Queen was on a visit Saturday to the phosphate loading station in Aqaba where the Phosphate Company director general briefed her on the company's projects and future plans to address the problem of phosphate powder. Her Majesty was accompanied by Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni, the president of Aqaba Region Authority, and the president of the Royal Society for the Protection of the Environment.

Queen Noor also chaired a meeting of the Aqaba Region Authority during which the president of the Aqaba Region Au-

thority made a detailed presentation on the authority's future plans that include the building of public parks opposite the hotels area and the development of Aqaba's Al Hafayer and Al Shalah districts. Plans for investment in the camp of Al Morjan shore by the Social Security Corporation, the Aqaba Region Authority and the Ministry of Tourism to provide public entertainment facilities were reviewed during the meeting.

During the meeting tourism development, accommodation for visitors, the development of the southern region, the creation of a new touristic region according to the Aqaba Region Authority's plans in addition to protecting maritime life there were also discussed. The meeting was attended by Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni, the president of the Aqaba Region Authority, the Social Security Corporation director, the Ministry of Tourism secretary general, Aqaba Governor, and the Aqaba Region Authority senior officials.

## West German team to discuss agricultural schemes in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A delegation from West Germany is due here on Aug. 21 to discuss with Jordanian officials agricultural schemes being implemented with help from the West German Development Agency.

The Agency is supplying financial and technical assistance to these projects under a 1989-1990 agreement.

To prepare for the talks with

the West German team, Agriculture Ministry's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi chaired a meeting Saturday at his office, reviewing agricultural projects that could benefit from German assistance between 1988 and 1990.

Last October, Jordan and West Germany exchanged notes on technical cooperation, including a West German offer to set up a

laboratory for controlling the quality of plant protection agents with a view to preserving public safety.

The notes encouraged Germany to assign a group of experts, supply material and equipment for the implementation of the project. The overall cost of the project was estimated at two million German marks.



Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Director General Burhan Shreideh Saturday addresses a new VTC course at Al Basha Training Centre, near Sweileh (Petra photo)

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**ENVOY TO SYRIA NAMED:** The cabinet Saturday named Nayef Al Hadid as ambassador to Syria. During a regular session, chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the cabinet also approved an Arab cooperation agreement on the field of aid and relief.

**ART EXHIBITION:** An exhibition by expatriate Jordanian artist Edward Horan opened at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman Saturday under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma. Horan's exhibition here, will last until Aug. 18.

**PUBLIC RALLY FOR IRAQ:** The National Jordanian Popular Committee for Supporting the Iraqi People will hold a public rally Wednesday on the occasion of Iraqi Armed Forces victories in the battlefield. Several notable speakers will address the rally which will be held at the Hussein Youth City.

**YOUTH CAMP OPENS:** A youth camp opened Saturday at the Ajloun permanent camping site. Participants in the week-long camp will hear lectures on the Great Arab Revolt and will take part in seminars and cultural activities. They will also tour a number of tourist and archaeological sites.

## Hammouri to visit Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri received an invitation from his Egyptian counterpart to visit Egypt and discuss cooperation between Egypt and Jordan in cultural fields.

The visit is expected to take place early next month during which the minister will tour various Egyptian cultural centres, according to an announcement here.

The announcement also said the Ministry of Culture received an invitation to take part in an Arab book exhibition to be held in Doha, Qatar in November. The ministry said it will participate in the exhibition, displaying 60 books.

## Jordan gets 1,582 tonnes of West Bank produce

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The total amount of fruits and vegetables that crossed into the East Bank from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip last month were estimated at 1,582 tonnes, according to a Ministry of Agriculture's statistical bulletin.

The bulletin said the shipments included 285 tonnes of onions, 237 tonnes of bananas, 809 tonnes of peaches, 91 tonnes of carrots, 37 tonnes of cactus fruit, 22 tonnes of grapes, 84 tonnes of boiled cheese and 17 tonnes of honey.

Normally these products are marketed in the East Bank. However, some of them find their way to neighbouring Arab countries.

## 7 killed, 9 injured in different incidents

JORDAN VALLEY (J.T.) — Two women were killed and nine others were injured in a road accident which occurred at Kraimeh in the Jordan Valley Friday.

A report in the local press said some of the injured will have to remain at hospital for at least 10 days for treatment.

In another incident, two children were killed when they were run over by a dairy truck in Irbid.

A report said that a child had tampered with the brakes of the parked car causing the vehicle to overturn and fall over a steep edge.

Two more people were killed in another accident in which two vehicles collided on the Zarqa Road.

According to Al Ra'i Arabic daily, a 19-year-old man was killed by three stray bullets fired during a wedding at Muwaqqar.

## Jordan to build new Central Post Office

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Post Office and Postal Savings Department (POPSD) is making preparations to set up a new automated Central Post Office, a project expected to cost JD 1 million, the Department Director Ghazi Rifai announced in a newspaper interview published Saturday.

The new central office will be close to the Radio and Television station in the area of Umm Al Hiran in Amman and will be built on 25,000 square metres, according to Rifai in a statement in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

Rifai told the newspaper that feasibility studies have been conducted and the Ministry of Public Works is now reviewing bids for the project which is intended to promote postal services in the Kingdom.

The population in Jordan, now estimated at three million are currently served by 1,000 post offices, at the rate of one office for every three thousand, "but the new project is expected to provide even better facilities and promote postal work in general," Rifai added.

Postal services in Jordan date back to 1921 and POPS (formerly known as Department of Communications) is considered the oldest in the country as it was established in 1939, Rifai said.

He said since its establishment the postal service in Jordan has been continually developed; and apart from delivering mail, post offices around the country are now involved in processing university students' applications, applications by job seekers addressed to the Civil Service Commission,

and applications for renewing vehicle licences.

In addition, the post offices now operate a savings system which is useful for depositors for educating their children "because the system allows members of the public to draw loans for education, provided they are saving with POPS," Rifai said.

He said that more than 250,000 citizens now have deposits with the POPS offices, and their number is on the increase at an estimated rate of 1,500 a month.

The accumulated funds, Rifai added, are continually invested in income-generating projects. "Shortly, they will be used to give loans to government officials in accordance with a system which is still to be drawn up by POPS."

Rifai said that delays in delivering mail are diminishing in number and "it is hoped that better measures will be introduced to speed up delivery."

He also announced that a total of 32 countries are now linked with Jordan through the fast mail delivery service which was introduced in the country two years ago.

## CORRECTION

The Jordan Times erroneously published a report Saturday on the first stage of a residential project for Yarmouk University. The report should have read Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) instead of Yarmouk. The Jordan Times apologises for the mistake.

## WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

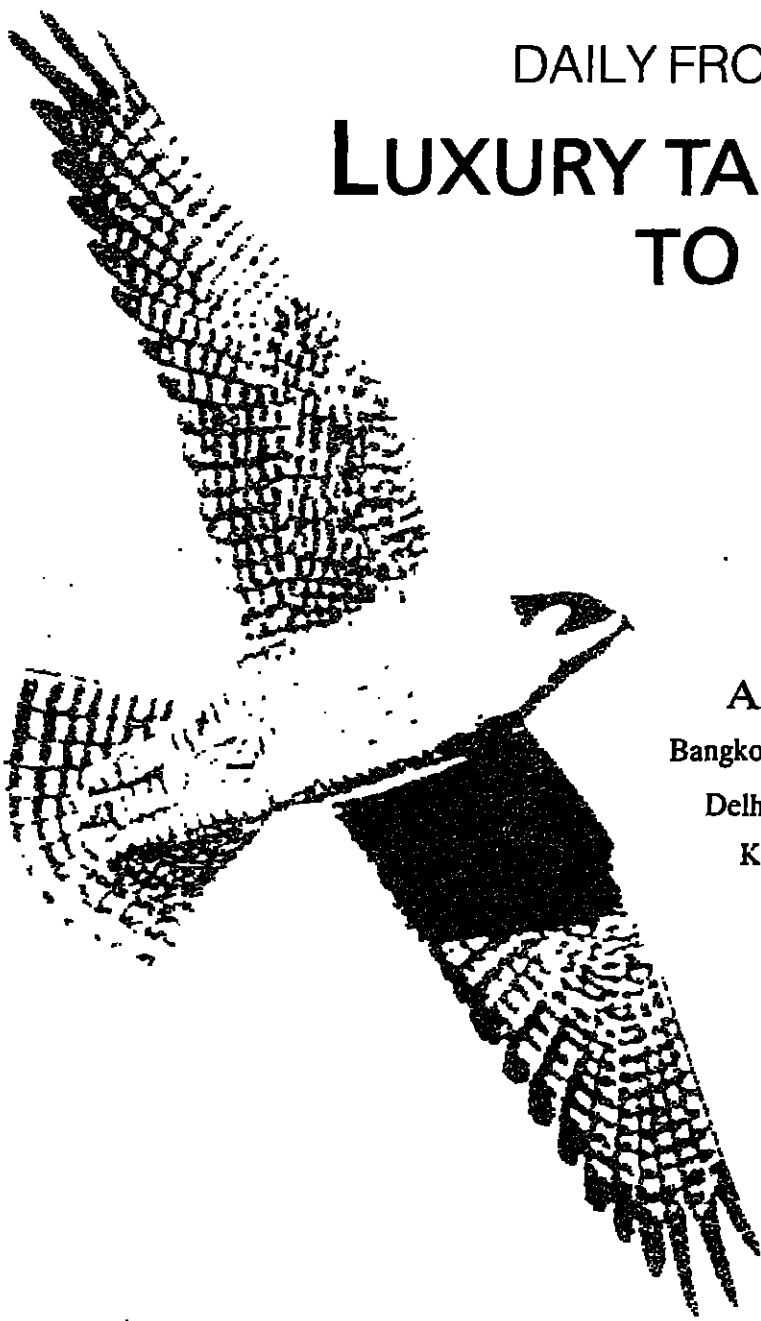
- Photo exhibition at the University of Jordan.
- Architectural exhibition at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.
- Art exhibition: "Silent Nature" at the University of Jordan.
- Paintings exhibition by Edward Horan at the Royal Cultural Centre.

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## Dialogue should replace guns

THE FUTURE of Lebanon may be more clear by the end of this week, when the surviving members of the country's parliament elect a new president for a six-year term to succeed Amin Gemayel. Saturday's announcement by Parliament Speaker Husseini Huseini that the house would meet Thursday for the elections signals that there is basic agreement among the various factions over the dire need to go ahead with the constitutional process. While it might be jumping the gun to deduce that this agreement encompasses the requirements of peace in the country and the role the president has to play in realising them, we take the behind-the-scenes consultations that produced Saturday's announcement as a good omen.

The Lebanese deputies, who will gather Thursday for the election process, will do so under the anxious eyes of the Arab World and the international community, as the next president would be the focal point in making or breaking hopes for a stable and secure Lebanon. To be sure, the Lebanese at large, who have no direct say in deciding their president should be, are hoping that the deputies name the best man for the job of putting an end to 13 years of bloodshed and misery. However, it is a very delicate and complex task that lies ahead for whoever emerges as president after Thursday's elections. It is no bed of roses that awaits him at the presidential palace. Ever-present suspicions and deep hostilities have become permanent features of the Lebanese political scene, and the president faces the prospect of having to walk a very thin line among them if he hopes to achieve national reconciliation — the only answer to restoring security and stability in the country and to rebuilding its unity and territorial integrity. We can only hope the token respect for the constitution among the various factions, as evident in their present jockeying for their candidates for the presidency, also extends to accepting that enough is enough, and that it is time that dialogue replaces the thunder of guns to bring about changes, justice and peace.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Rabah — Al Ra'i

### Al Ra'i: Avoiding outbidding

IN all its actions and through all the measures it has issued so far, Jordan has wished to avoid situations where it would seem it is outbidding others in serving national causes. Jordan has always sought to achieve agreement and consensus among Arab countries and never acted to sow seeds of dissension among them. For this reason, Jordan hopes that its current negotiations with the PLO would not be distorted by other Arab countries since both sides require a positive and healthy climate in order to work out a formula for helping the Arab brothers under Israeli rule. The Palestine issue is now going through a critical stage, requiring support for the Jordanian-PLO moves on the part of the Arab Nation. Jordan should be supported by all Arabs in its decision to offer the PLO full responsibilities in dealing with the Palestine question and in its drive to place Israel face to face with the realities in the occupied territories. Regardless of Jordan's severing of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, Amman has pledged to maintain all possible help to the Palestinian people, and therefore meaningful backing should be given to Jordan's endeavours in cooperation with the PLO.

### Al Dustour: Solidarity with Sudan

IN yet another manifestation of its solidarity with all Arab countries, Jordan has decided to dispatch urgently needed food and medical supplies to the Sudanese people who are now facing the horrible consequences of floods. The decision expresses a national stand and reflects the Jordanian leadership's readiness to offer speedy help to Arab citizens in distress, especially the Sudanese people who have been subjected to one ordeal after another. The new consignments of food and medical supplies complement those which Jordan had been sending to Sudan to help that country's people overcome the consequences of drought and famine that hit the country over the past two years. We indeed hope that Jordan's humanitarian example will be copied by other Arab countries, and we also hope that the Jordanian people will respond favourably to a call by the national committee for solidarity with Sudan to extend financial and in-kind help to their brothers to alleviate their sufferings. Any assistance offered to the Sudanese people can only reflect true affection and compassion among the Arab people, and any humanitarian assistance will be a noble act among brothers.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Direct negotiations

ARAB people who truly wish to serve the higher Arab interests and are committed to the cause of peace have expressed total support for Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank. They realise that such a move can only promote the role of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; and help Jordan to become even more active in regional, international and national arenas. Arab leaders are supporting the Jordanian decision since they supported this move at the recent Algiers Arab summit, and the PLO has welcomed the move, saying it will help them to play a leading role in serving the Palestinian people on all fronts. Most importantly, the Jordanian decision is bound to place the Israeli leaders in a difficult position, forcing them to deal with the Palestinians directly following years of denial of the Palestinian people's rights and their adamant position with regard to the Middle East international peace conference. By responding favourably to the PLO and Arab states, Jordan has acted with wisdom. By pledging continued support to the Palestinians it showed its total commitment to the Arab cause.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# West Bank separation won't affect economy

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

ECONOMIC analysts may speculate that the recent measures to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank will have some adverse consequences on the Jordanian economy, especially as far as the volume of expatriate remittances, the prices at the Amman stockexchange and Jordan dinar position are concerned.

We argue that these fears are unfounded. The decision did not create new economic realities, it only formally recognised what was already established on the ground.

Expatriate remittances are of course sensitive to many factors. They declined by 15 per cent in 1987 without any measures taken, and rose in the first half of 1988 for no political reasons.

Remittances can be classified into two parts. The first part heads for the West Bank as a final destination. This part can be estimated at 30 per cent of the total remittances and will continue because there is no better way to channel the funds. If that trend did not continue, it will not influence the Jordanian economy, or the real balance of payments, as distinct from the official statistical balance of payment, which does not recognise remittance while moving on to the West Bank.

The second part of the remittances, up to 70 per cent of the total, heads for the East Bank as a final destination, and will not be affected by the measures in any way.

From a different point of view, the remittances can be classified by purpose into two categories: First, remittances for consumption representing funds sent to families and relatives for their living expenses. This part is estimated to be above 80 per cent, and is not

likely to change because its volume is determined by the level of income of the expatriate concerned, and the needs of the family staying behind. Second, remittances made for investment and saving purposes, amounting to 20 per cent. This part is admittedly very sensitive, not to political factors though, but to economic and financial considerations, such as return on investment, rate of interest, and perceived degree of risk. Those economic factors were obviously not influenced by the recent measures, and should not cause any drop.

The expatriates' remittances may nevertheless fluctuate up or down. If this happened it should be explained by many factors not including the subject measures.

The analysts also look at Amman stockexchange as a possible crisis area. The West Bankers, they suspect, may dump their portfolios of Jordanian companies' shares.

Once more the prices in any stockexchange are sensitive to fundamental and psychological factors. There is no doubt that the measures do not amount to an economic factor. The economics of the companies and their profitability will not be influenced by the measures.

Any change in prices, therefore, must be psychological and accordingly temporary. The prices did drop by some three per cent in the first week until last Monday. Later on they bounced back when dealers realised that they have over-reacted. By the way, all Arabs, much more the Palestinians, are allowed and encouraged to own any amount of Jordanian shares without limitation. Dividends are tax

exempt in Jordan.

Those who may push the prices of shares down in order to unload their portfolios will be punishing themselves.

The third area cited by observers is the Jordanian dinar. No one knows for sure the amount of dinars held by the West Bankers in cash. We estimate that they hold around JD 140 million. West Bankers also invest their savings in the Jordanian banking system. We estimate their deposits at JD 360 million. Thus the overall amount of dinars owned by West Bankers could add up to JD 500 million, or 20 per cent of the money supply widely defined.

What would happen to these amounts? I venture to answer: Nothing, until an independent Palestinian state is established. Even then the dinar may continue as legal tender in such a state for at least two more years. The Palestinian pound continued in circulation in Jordan until 1950.

The political measures as such has no direct bearing on the dinar. Dinar holders in both banks have full confidence in the Jordanian banking system and the Central Bank of Jordan. They know for sure that their rights are 100 per cent safe and protected.

West Bankers' deposits are divided among all commercial banks and financial corporations. However, the major part is held with Arab Bank, a very strong and trustworthy bank at domestic and international levels.

To sum up, the economic impact of the recent measures are minimal, and the Jordanian economy should not be adversely affected.

## The imperatives pushing North Africa towards unity

By Francis Ghiles

THE reopening, in June, of the frontier between Algeria and Morocco, North Africa's two most powerful countries, has evoked a strong and favourable popular response. The officially controlled media in the two countries praised the vision and sense of history of their respective leaders. This was hardly a surprise.

For the mass of Algerians and Moroccans, however, the promise of greater freedom of travel, trade and economic cooperation holds great appeal. The 12-year break between the two countries, caused by their dispute over the status of the former Spanish colony of the Western Sahara, was viewed by many of the more thoughtful North Africans, and not just in the two countries concerned, as a tragedy.

"The 12-year break between Algeria and Morocco was viewed as a tragedy"

The dispute over the Western Sahara has yet to be resolved but the break in diplomatic relations it brought in February 1976 was, in many respects, the logical result of the competition for regional influence between Morocco, the Muslim world's oldest monarchy, and Algeria, a state born of a cruel war of liberation against France. That conflict cost one million dead and witnessed the exodus of an equal number of European settlers.

King Hassan of Morocco is Amir al-Mu'minin (commander of the Faithful) and Khalifat Allah Fil-Ard (Allah's deputy on earth). The legitimacy of the Alaoui dynasty which has ruled Islam's most western lands for over three centuries rests on the dual foundation of historical tradition and the religion of the Prophet Muhammad. The monarch has, especially during the early years of his reign, successfully deflected agitation by the major opposition parties and students and survived riots and attempted military coups.

Despite extremes of wealth and poverty, regional disparities and a bloated public sector, Morocco has made a far greater success of its agriculture than virtually any other African or Middle East country. It is actively developing its fishing, textile and tourist industries. More recently, its minister of finance, Mr. Mohammed Barrada, has showed real courage in confronting vested interests and trying to implement bold economic reform. This policy enjoys the support of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, both of which have lent considerable amounts of money to the kingdom. The United States has long looked on King Hassan as its paramount friend in North West Africa. The monarch has kept a line open to Israeli leaders — indeed he received Shimon Peres, then the Israeli prime minister, in Ifrane two years ago. He sent troops to Zaire to help President Mobutu ten years ago. He has provided help for Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Unita.

Such policies have long been anathema to Algeria's foreign policy establishment. Algerian leaders, especially throughout the Ben Bella and Boumedienne years — the country's first two presidents up to 1979 — wanted to fight injustice wherever they could in the world. Hence they gave enthusiastic support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the African National Congress and many other liberation movements. They allowed the USSR to refuel their Antonov transport planes when airlifting arms and munitions into Luanda ten years ago. Algeria espoused the more radical OPEC policies and waged a bitter fight with

French companies to recover its oil and gas assets. No liberation movement worth its salt would have missed having offices in Algeria in the 1970s.

Algeria's foreign policy is less stridently expressed these days, a change which reflects both the manner of the man who has held the reins since 1979, Chadli Benjedid, and a maturing process which has turned the go-getting revolutionaries of yesteryear into people more aware of how difficult it is to change things, be it at home or abroad. The high quality of many of its diplomats and the serious and steady manner in which it conducts its foreign policy continue to earn Algeria an influence in African and Middle East affairs and beyond, far in excess of the country's economic resources. Its success in securing the release of the U.S. diplomats held hostage in Tehran seven years ago ranks among the classics of international diplomacy.

Two sets of factors are conspiring to bring not just Algeria and Morocco but Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia closer together. The challenges of a fast rising population; even in Tunisia, where long-standing efforts to promote family planning and women's rights have produced encouraging results, and the need to create more jobs than at present are pressing. The weight of foreign debt, which precludes Morocco and Mauritania from raising fresh private funds and severely hampers the abilities of both Algeria and Tunisia to do so weighs heavily on economic development. The need, in all five countries, to reform the bloated parastatal companies and give greater freedom of action to the private sector requires the full attention

"Libya's maverick leader, Colonel Qadhafi, is rediscovering the virtues of private retailing"

of the rulers.

As Libya's maverick leader, Colonel Qadhafi, rediscovered the virtues of private retailing after years of an economic policy which has left the shops in this oil rich country with nothing to sell except basic foodstuffs, Algeria is implementing a bold policy of selling off state land to private farmers and slowly freeing its export policies. At the same time, Tunisia is pushing through a package of reforms agreed with the IMF faster than any of its Maghreb peers; and Morocco is facing up to the simple truth that as long as its entrepreneurs pay neither personal nor company tax, the state will be in no position to raise the pool level of education, let alone bring that third of the country below the poverty line into the monetary economy. In all five countries the state holds so much power that it is no exaggeration to say that it is often crippled by its constituent parts. With Europe moving towards a unified market by 1992 — and all five North African countries conduct more than three quarters of their trade with the European Community — the alarm bells are ringing loud, at least in Algiers, Rabat and Tunis.

Political factors are also at play. The threat of Muslim fundamentalism may appear less serious in North Africa than in the Middle East. Yet it was the agitation led by such groups, and the threat of rebellion among elements of the National Guard, which finally convinced the present Tunisian head of state, Zein al-Abidin Ben Ali, that the ageing and sick Habib Bourguiba, had to be removed, last year. The new head of state probably played a more influential role than many observers believe in bringing about a thaw in relations between Morocco and Algeria. His very presence meant that Tunisia was no longer

the sick man of the Maghreb, a country Colonel Qadhafi was able to play with as he in turn courted the Algerian or Moroccan leadership. If the improvement in relations between Algeria and Morocco is to be consolidated, a solution will have to be found to the Western Saharan conflict which will, of necessity, involve a Moroccan compromise.

Relations between Tunisia and its eastern neighbour have improved considerably of late but the fact that Major Abd al-Salam Jallud, the Libyan number two, does not share his leader's enthusiasm for the new Tunisian president spells caution. President Ben Ali's previous job of running Tunisia's internal security does however suggest he knows well how difficult it will be to keep relations with Colonel Qadhafi on an even keel. As it is, Tunisia has earned \$100m from Libyan visitors so far in 1988, which is most welcome in a year of drought and locusts.

Wider political considerations are also at play, not least Gorbachev's apparent desire to

The Algerian leadership has long since abandoned any desire to unseat King Hassan

improve relations with Israel and the uprising in the occupied territories. Such factors weigh heavily in Algiers, where foreign policy considerations are more "global" than elsewhere in North Africa. Algeria is also keen to play a role in mending bridges between Iran and Iraq. The outcome of the U.S. election, on the other hand, would appear to have little bearing on current events in the region.

Fewer tensions in the Maghreb can only help Chadli Benjedid, who is expected to seek a third term as president next January. He knows that the move to reestablish diplomatic relations with Morocco before any visible progress is made on the Western Saharan issue may appear as diplomatic concession. But such a move can only make him more

## Sandinistas hope a Dukakis win will ease contra pressure

By Matthew Campbell  
Reuter

MANAGUA — Beseet by grave economic and political problems, Nicaragua's ruling Sandinistas are nevertheless finding cause for cheer in the U.S. presidential campaign.

They are voicing satisfaction on two counts — that the Reagan era is coming to an end and that a Democrat might win control of the White House in the November polls.

President Reagan has made support for contra rebels a cornerstone of his foreign policy. The rebels have been fighting to topple the leftist Sandinista government since 1981, with U.S. military aid.

In the Sandinistas' eyes, a victory by Democrat Michael Dukakis, an outspoken critic of the contras, would be a boon. "He knows our Latin American reality. He speaks Spanish and he has lived in Latin America," Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said of Dukakis in a recent speech.

Despite the backing from

Washington, the contras have achieved few battlefield successes, and the Sandinistas now seem to be relishing their own survival as Reagan prepares to leave office.

"Reagan is going, but the Sandinista revolution will remain," Ortega said in a July speech commemorating the revolution's ninth anniversary, suggesting the U.S. election would be a watershed in Nicaragua affairs.

Over the past few years, Nicaraguan leaders frequently warned that Reagan might intervene militarily to remove the Sandinistas from power, as the contras had failed to oust them.

### 'Final straight'

Now, official media routinely describe the last few months of the Reagan presidency as the "final straight" for Nicaragua, reflecting a government perception that the worst of the storm will be over once Reagan leaves the White House next January.

Vice President George Bush, the certain Republican nominee, has generally supported Reagan's

Central American policy although it is not clear how much of a priority Nicaragua would be in a Bush administration.

Chief foreign ministry spokesman Alejandro Bendana said of Reagan's support for the contras: "No new administration would be able to continue a policy that has failed so totally."

Another government official, former Nicaraguan envoy to Washington Carlos Tunnermann, described Reagan's policy as the result of an "abnormal obsession" unlikely to be matched by any other president.

But just in case, the Sandinistas are pinning their hopes on Dukakis who, Ortega said, offered "encouragement to the countries of Latin America who are demanding a new type of relations with the United States."

Official media are covering the campaign with gusto, giving the Massachusetts governor prominent coverage.

Sandinista television recently showed a clip from a U.S. Hispanic news programme in which Dukakis described the contras as

a "disaster" and called the policy of supporting them illegal.

"The Reagan era is over," ran a headline in the official Barricada newspaper, quoting Dukakis as saying that drugs were the real problem in Latin America, not the ruling Sandinistas.

### Le Preosa fights back

While this may be music to the ears of Nicaragua's revolutionary leaders, the conservative opposition is sounding a note of alarm.

Some right-wing foes of the Sandinistas accuse the last Democratic President Jimmy Carter of betraying Nicaragua by cutting off support to the late dictator Anastasio Somoza, hastening his downfall in the Sandinista-led uprising in 1979.

"It was Mr. Carter who left the government in the hands of the Sandinistas, abandoning the democratic opposition," said an article in the opposition La Prensa newspaper, warning Dukakis might also be duped by the writer called the "Marxist-Leninist regime."

## Midway through Soviet pullout, Afghan rebels less confident

By Malcolm Davidson  
Reuter

QUETTA, Pakistan — When the Soviet Union declared it was withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, Mujahideen guerrillas confidently predicted a swift victory over the Kabul government.

Today, that euphoria is gone. Three months after Soviet soldiers started leaving, most guerrilla fighters readily agree many will die before the war is won.

According to the analysts the guerrillas who lack an effective command structure must fight a more conventional war even though this will expose them to Afghan and Soviet air attacks. "If they stand and fight they are going to get their butts kicked," said a military analyst in Islamabad who asked not to be identified.

With half the Soviet Union's more than 100,000-strong force due to be out by Monday, the political and military situation is changing, say rebel leaders and Western analysts.

Without Soviet military support, Afghan government forces may provide much weaker opposition and retreat into their strongest garrisons, leaving the guerrillas the run of the countryside, rebel leaders say.

But Moscow has affirmed it intends to fulfill its pledge under the Geneva accords to withdraw by Feb. 15 next year the troops which first entered Afghan in 1979.

The guerrillas' most conspicuous failure is that all the major Afghan cities remain in government hands.

Guerrilla commanders in the Pakistani city of Quetta say the Soviet withdrawal from Kandahar, Afghanistan's big southern city reinforced recently by Kabul, is a breakthrough.

Its fall would be a tremendous boost to Mujahideen prestige and could give the political leadership a chance to move from Peshawar, in northwest Pakistan, to Afghanistan.

Guerrilla leaders met two weeks ago to plan a major assault on Kandahar and to coordinate

their strategy. Maulvi Abdul Waris, head of the fundamentalist Hezb-I-Islami, said at least 6,000 guerrillas were poised for the attack.

Any large concentration of Mujahideen exposes them to the danger of air attack as Hamed Gailani, head of the National Islamic Front in Quetta, acknowledged.

"Our primary difficulty in the war has been and always will be the air raids," he said. "As long as the Soviet air force can operate it will be difficult."

Hamed Gailani's father, Syed Ahmad Gailani, is current chairman of the Peshawar-based alliance of seven guerrilla groups which regard themselves as the rightful inheritors of power in Afghanistan.

The alliance is officially known as the Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahideen but the title cloaks deep divisions.

These were exposed last month when United Nations mediator Diego Cordovez urged both sides in the conflict to step aside in favour of a neutral government of

impartial Afghans.

His plan included a ceasefire and cooling-off period during which the neutral government would convene an assembly of prominent Afghans to develop an administration acceptable to all sides.

The plan was officially condemned by the alliance, which refused to see Cordovez, but several moderate leaders, including Gailani, have accepted parts of the plan.

The minimum demand of the guerrillas is the toppling of President Najibullah from power in Kabul.

There are few indications that he is currently under serious threat but Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze made a point during his visit to Kabul last weekend to get a wide sampling of Afghan opinion.

In an interview with the official Bakhtar news agency in Kabul he stressed the need for putting "the cause of the country's salvation above dogmatically interpreted class interests."



## Iran rebels free 1,300 prisoners

By a Jordan Times Staff writer

AMMAN — The Iranian dissident movement, Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, has announced the release of 1,300 Iranian prisoners during its offensives in the last two months against Iranian border towns.

A statement teleaxed to the Jordan Times Friday said the general command of the Mujahedeen's National Liberation Army (NLA) the prisoners were released Thursday under the orders of Mujahedeen leader Massoud Rajavi, president of the National Council of Resistance and commander-in-chief of the NLA.

The statement said the released Iranians had been taken prisoner in operations conducted by the NLA.

The NLA general command also reported that 850 of the released prisoners requested to join the NLA.

This was the third group of prisoners released in the past nine months. About 370 were released by the NLA in November 1987 and March 1988.

The NLA also denied Saturday that the commanders of 15 of its divisions and brigades were killed in fighting inside Iran last month.

Another statement teleaxed to the Jordan Times late Friday said that only three brigade commanders were killed and no division commanders.

The statement said Iranian Revolutionary Guards corps commander Mohsen Rezaei Friday "attempted a false show of strength by claiming that the commanders of 15 NLA divisions and brigades were among those killed."

"This is a totally false claim: The commander of no NLA division was killed in the operation, which took them 150 kilometers

inside Iran. These commanders are all present in their command posts."

It said the NLA had announced the names of the three dead commanders over the Mujahedeen's radio during the operation.

The NLA said July 29 its forces had withdrawn after occupying towns deep inside Iran for three days. Iran said it had lured the rebels in, trapped them and killed more than 4,300 in 48 hours of fighting.

Iran's acceptance of a ceasefire in its war with Iraq has cast doubts on continued Iraqi support for the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, who seek to topple the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in Tehran. But the Mujahedeen have vowed that they would continue their anti-Khomeini struggle regardless of the course of the Iran-Iraq war.

In a statement teleaxed to the Jordan Times Thursday, Rajavi described Iran's acceptance of the ceasefire as a sign of "the failure of all (of) Khomeini's war-mongering policies and the destruction of a major portion of his apparatus of war and repression."

Rajavi congratulated the people of Iran "and all opponents of Khomeini's belligerence."

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"This is a totally false claim: The commander of no NLA division was killed in the operation, which took them 150 kilometers



National Liberation Army (NLA) fighters in the Iranian town of Mehran during an NLA offensive in June. The NLA evacuated the town a few days later.

"The religious dictatorship ruling Iran has no tolerance for peace, stability, tranquility, and economic and social progress. Lasting peace can only be realised by the overthrow of this regime and the establishment of freedom and national sovereignty. (The Mujahedeen) will continue their resistance and libera-

tion struggle under any circumstances to overthrow Khomeini and bring about the great day of freedom for the people of Iran. The trend of developments in the past seven years especially has well proven the validity of the viewpoints of the Iranian people's just resistance for peace and freedom."

## Lebanese presidential elections set for Aug. 18

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini announced Saturday that the house would meet Aug. 18 to elect a new president for a six-year term.

"According to the Lebanese constitution... the parliament calls for electing a new president and will meet at 11 in the morning on Thursday, Aug. 18 for this purpose," said the statement read by Hussein to journalists at the parliament house.

Husseini made his announcement in a statement issued after an emergency meeting with parliament members, who according to Lebanon's 1943 constitution should meet before Sept. 23 to elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel.

Husseini said the election session would be held at the parliament house located at the museum crossing along the green line battlefield dividing Beirut. The constitution does not specify a date for the election of a president, who is chosen by the one-chamber house during a two-month period beginning July 23 every six years.

The 99-seat parliament was elected for a four-year term in 1972. The civil war, which broke out in 1975, has prevented parliamentary elections and the house has been extending its own term.

Twenty-two deputies have died since 1972. Gemayel's seat became vacant in 1985 when he was elected president. That left parliament with only 76 members.

Both Syria and the United

States have made efforts in the past few months to ensure orderly presidential elections.

Three Maronite Christians are official candidates among scores of politicians, businessmen and lawyers running for the office.

The presidency is reserved for a Maronite under Lebanon's constitution allocating top government posts to the various religious groups.

The deputies vote in a secret ballot for anyone, whether or not a declared candidate.

The successful candidate needs two thirds of the votes in the first ballot and an absolute majority in the second.

Although the new president will be elected next Thursday he will only take up his post Sept. 23 when Gemayel ends his term.

The same parliament, elected by the people in 1972, has voted for three presidents since the civil war broke out in 1975.

Many Lebanese hope the new president will help end the 13 years of civil strife that has killed thousands of people and caused material damage estimated at billions of dollars.

Weeks before the polls, the country's politicians and potential candidates flocked to Damascus.

The headline night Lebanese Forces (LF) militia said Thursday it had mobilised its security and

political apparatus to face a possible nomination of Syrian-backed former President Suleiman Frangieh for the presidency.

The militia strongly opposes Syria's military presence in Lebanon.

But despite the announcement there was no evidence of a state of alert or details of what the militia intends to do if Frangieh, a long-time ally of Syria, decides to run for election.

Frangieh has not officially announced whether he will stand but LF officials say he has told

Damascus he will and has received Syria's blessing.

The presidential election Thursday will be the eighth since Lebanon's independence from French rule in 1943, and the 14th since the state of Lebanon was first created during the French mandate in 1920.

On Aug. 23, 1982, the current president's younger brother, Bashir Gemayel, was elected president. He was assassinated in a bomb explosion Sept. 14, nine days before he was due to assume office.

## Witness in RJ hijack case detained in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Middle Eastern man has been jailed as a possible witness in the case of the 1985 hijacking of a Royal Jordanian (RJ) airliner, following U.S. concerns he may not testify fearing for his family's safety in Beirut, authorities say.

Mouin Abdul Ajam, whose age and nationality were not released, was arrested in California Thursday. He appeared before a U.S. judge who agreed to let authorities take him across the country to Washington, according to court records in California.

Jessica McGuire, an assistant U.S. public defender who represented Ajam in California, said an arrest warrant for Ajam reported that the U.S. Justice Department was concerned he might not cooperate in the prosecution of hijacking suspect Fawaz Younis.

Younis, a former member of Lebanon's Shiite Amal militia, is awaiting trial in Washington on hijacking charges.

Ajam is "extremely concerned" that if he cooperates with the prosecutors in the case, his family in Beirut will be killed in retaliation by groups sympathetic to Younis, McGuire said.

"He has every reason to fear retaliation against his family in Beirut," she said. Ajam complained that the U.S. government was "not taking enough precautions regarding his family," she said.

McGuire declined to give more information about her client, citing his concerns for the safety of his family.

Ajam is one of several Middle Easterners who prosecutors have said could give evidence against Younis.

Prosecutors disclosed in court last month that two airline crew members are in protective custody after agreeing to come to the U.S. and testify against Younis.

U.S. prosecutors also reportedly have filed a motion to compel Ajam to give a sworn deposition about the case, according to sources who demanded anonymity.

Justice Department spokesman John Russell declined to comment.

Younis was arrested last September after he was lured aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean. He is charged with leading the June 11, 1985, hijacking of a Royal Jordanian airliner in Beirut.

Federal prosecutors have jurisdiction to prosecute the case because the plane was carrying several Americans. No date has been set for Younis' trial in U.S. district court here.

The trial is being delayed while prosecutors appeal a U.S. judge's ruling that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) illegally obtained statements from Younis during a four-day interrogation following his arrest at sea.

The judge ruled the admissions could not be used as evidence against Younis because the defendant did not understand his constitutional protection against self-incrimination.

The Jordanian airliner was hijacked by four armed men and forced to fly to several locations in the Mediterranean.

Following its return to Beirut the next day, the jetliner was blown up after 74 passengers and crew members were taken off the aircraft.

## Vassiliou sees beginning of end to Cyprus conflict

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus President George Vassiliou said Saturday he saw forthcoming talks with Turkish Cypriots as the beginning of the end of the 14-year-division of the island.

"I look at the negotiations as the beginning of the end... otherwise there would have been no point in entering negotiations," Vassiliou told Reuters in an interview.

Vassiliou will meet Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş in Geneva Aug. 24 for landmark talks brokered by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The talks aim to set a date and framework to resume negotiations on reunifying Cyprus, split since 1974 when Turkey seized the northern third of the island after a short-lived coup engineered by the military junta in Athens.

Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have not met since 1985 when talks in New York between

Denktash and Vassiliou's predecessor Spyros Kyprianou collapsed.

Vassiliou, a self-made millionaire and political novice elected six months ago in a groundswell for change on the Greek-Cypriot side, will meet Denktaş for the first time.

"I am interested to see what kind of climate will be created," he said. "It is obvious that it is always very important to establish a working relationship and a personal relationship."

Professing cautious optimism over the talks, Vassiliou said: "I'm expecting these to be difficult, cumbersome sometimes, and arduous negotiations, but I'm going there with the conviction and the determination to make everything possible for the negotiations to succeed."

Vassiliou said a new world climate was conducive to negotiations and the solution of regional conflicts.

He cited as a positive element the recent efforts of Greece and Turkey to improve relations.

Vassiliou said it was significant that the negotiating process itself would take place in Cyprus rather than the Geneva meeting.

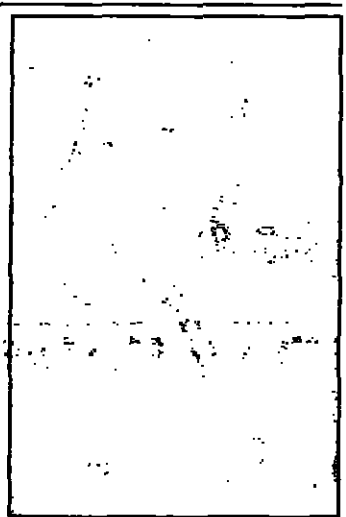
During past negotiations, he said, discussions centred on details. But the approach by Perez de Cuellar in the Geneva meeting was to establish an overview of a solution first.

"We will try to arrive at a common understanding of an overall solution... and only then will we go into further details," Vassiliou added.

Vassiliou said the obvious desire by Turkish Cypriots for progress was matched by a similar desire by Greek Cypriots.

Turkish Cypriots have been conducting a campaign in north Cyprus to collect signatures in favour of a federal solution.

"This campaign is only one expression of the ardent desire of



George Vassiliou

Turkish Cypriots to see progress made on the Cyprus issue and Cyprus reunited again," he said.

Turkish Cypriots, backed by an estimated 29,000 Turkish troops declared independence in 1983. But only Ankara has recognised the breakaway republic.

Conceding the difficulties ahead, Vassiliou said of the talks: "I should have said I was very cautious, or extremely cautious, if one takes into account the history of the negotiations until now and the fact that there are no indications of a change in attitudes on the other side..."

He said impetus would be crucial from other countries which had a special relationship with Turkey, Greece and Cyprus and were interested in a solution.

Vassiliou also hoped for a more positive U.S. attitude, which he said up to now had been characterized by inactivity.

## King explains W. Bank decision to PLO team

(Continued from page 1)

the stable position of this country towards the Palestinian issue."

It said the delegation "expressed the PLO's appreciation for the King's considerations and his interest in supporting the Palestinian issue and the rights of its people."

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

Commenting on Jordan's decision to sever formal ties with the West Bank, Al Siyassa newspaper of Kuwait said Saturday that the measures, as the King said, affect the occupied Palestinian land and not the Palestinians living in Jordan and were designed to give the PLO the full responsibility in the endeavours to regain the usurped lands.

Al Jumhuriyah newspaper of Cairo paid tribute to the King for his endeavours to rally the Arabs and strengthen their solidarity. It described the King's decision as courageous since he gave the PLO leadership the whole responsibility for the Palestinians and their future.

Khalaf welcomes move

Salah Khalaf, a senior member of Fateh, the biggest PLO faction, has praised the Jordanian move. Al Bayan daily of the United Arab Emirates quoted Khalaf as welcoming the Jordanian step as a "courageous decision (that) enables the Palestine Liberation Organisation to shoulder its responsibility and take over new political rights."

Khalaf said the Arab World must back any plans by the PLO to form a government-in-exile or the idea would be scrapped. The proposal is expected to be discussed at a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) which Algeria has agreed to host.

"If we find Arab states oppose

a Palestinian government then we will bravely tell our people it is not possible for the time being," Khalaf said.

In a separate interview with the weekly Al Usbou Al Arabi, Khalaf said:

"Our people were against the Jericho conference (of 1950) and those who attended the conference were not real or elected representatives of the Palestinian people because our people were recovering from their wounds."

"That created the conflict of the annexation which meant stripping the Palestinian people of their national identity," he said. "Under occupation a new generation was born that knows only that there was occupation and there was Palestine."

"The generation of the Palestinian intifada has lived a Palestinian spirit under occupation and learnt not to leave its homeland and emulate the earlier generations which took refuge and were turned destitute in Lebanon, Syria and Egypt."

"Distinguished relationship"

"PNC meetings have always stressed the distinguished relationship between the two people (Jordanians and Palestinians) and on the basis of this relationship we can establish a confederation between us. Previous efforts did not come to fruition and everybody thought that the PLO was finished. But the intifada broke out to reaffirm the Palestinian identity and there was proof that the intifada was related to the PLO and was not spontaneous and that the intifada's aim is to reaffirm the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people. It does not fight anybody but occupation."

Khalaf said that a new healthy relationship with Jordan would be in the interest of all Jordanians and Palestinians. "Anything to the contrary would be against the interests of both Jordan and

Palestine," he said. "We, along with Jordan, the Arabs and the international community, bear the complete responsibility..."

"The people in the West Bank and Gaza are united on one issue — self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state," he said. "A state would solve all the problems of the Palestinian people... If the passport problem is solved then the problems of bridges, sales of West Bank and Gaza produce and students will remain to be solved. All these problems could be solved by the creation of a Palestinian state."

He said the Palestinians were always offered a "choice between two evils: what Israel calls the Jordanian option or autonomy in accordance with the Camp David accords. The intifada has surpassed both."

"For the first time we see a Jordanian recognition of the Palestinian identity on the highest level in Jordan, His Majesty the King. This will put the Israelis against the tough option of dealing with the PLO, dropping both the Jordanian option as advocated by (Israeli Likud leader) Shamir. The (Jordanian) move is positive."

The mission of the PLO team in Amman, according to Khalaf, is to "discuss the future and questions on how to move towards an international conference in which Jordan, Syria and the PLO participate on equal footing, either in separate delegations or in a joint Arab delegation."

"They will also discuss the relations between Jordan and the PLO at this stage and in the next stage, after the establishment of a Palestinian state by which a well-researched unity between the two identities will also be established," he said.

## Police, extremists clash in Cairo; 19 hurt

CAIRO (AP) — Nineteen people were wounded in a clash between stone-throwing Muslim extremists and security forces using tear gas and sticks in a Cairo suburb, a senior police official said Saturday.

The official, who demanded anonymity under operating rules, said more than 120 extremists also used chains and flaming objects in fighting police forces. More than 70 extremists were arrested, he added.

One police pickup truck was set ablaze, he said.

The official said the clash occurred Friday night outside a mosque in the northeastern Cairo suburb of A'in Shams.

He said that a police force, acting on a tip, had gone to the Adam mosque and was waiting outside to detain a number of extremist suspects who were meeting inside after evening prayers.

"The clash began after policemen moved to make arrests as the extremists were leaving the mosque," the official said.

The police action apparently was part of a nationwide security operation that began after three Muslim fundamentalists serving life terms in the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat escaped from a maximum-security prison in a southern Cairo suburb July 17. Two of them have died in shootouts with police since, and the third was arrested.

In the fighting outside the mosque, which lasted less than half an hour, the extremists hurled stones and flaming objects and used chains against police who

attacked with tear gas and sticks, the police official said.

Three policemen were wounded, one seriously, and 16 civilians suffered "medium or minor injuries," he said. Some were taken to hospital but he did not say how many.

The Middle East News Agency said the extremists belonged to the underground fundamentalist organisation Jihad, a local group which has no connection with Lebanon's Islamic Jihad.

The agency said that the extremists were planning "provocations and acts of violence," including incitement of Muslim-Christian strife and distribution of anti-government leaflets.

It said the extremists initially barricaded themselves inside the mosque and some climbed a wall surrounding it and hurled stones and "flaming projectiles" at police forces outside.

After leaving the mosque, some extremists burned tyres on the streets.

Egypt's Jihad was blamed by the government for Sadat's slaying at a military parade Oct. 6, 1981, and a subsequent two-day uprising in the southern city of Assiut in which more than 80 people, mostly policemen, were killed. The uprising, officials then said, was to have been a prelude to overthrowing the government.

In the Sadat assassination and coup attempt trials, five people were sentenced to death and executed — three by firing squad and two by hanging — and more than 120 were given prison terms up to life. Under Egyptian law, a life term is 25 years.

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# World faces higher food prices

**LONDON (R) — Traders forecast higher farm prices Friday after the United States said its worst drought in 50 years would mean huge crop losses.**

The drought has tilted world cereal stocks from surplus towards scarcity.

But after initial sharp rises in Europe and then in the big Chicago market, futures prices for wheat, corn (maize) and soybeans shed some of the gains.

Higher prices might be good for farmers but would be a dismal outlook for debt-laden Third World buyers for whom less food may now be available as aid.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see wheat prices at \$200 a tonne by this time next year," said one London-based trader.

The price for high quality milling wheat was around \$100 a year ago. It is \$140 now.

Traders said firm indications of how prices will move may emerge only when big buyers like the Soviet Union enter the markets having held off pending the latest crop forecast by the U.S. Agriculture Department.

This was issued Thursday. It said the U.S. corn (maize) harvest may drop 37 per cent this year. Wheat output would fall 13 per cent and that of soybeans would be down 23 per cent to the lowest since 1976.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome said earlier Thursday that the drought losses would bring world cereal stocks next year down to "the minimum level FAO considers necessary to safeguard food security."

Western Europe expects a bumper harvest this year but drought has also affected China and slightly reduced estimates of the Soviet crop.

U.S. officials see a possibility that the Soviet Union and many Third World countries may have trouble buying food in 1989.

The FAO says Third World importers may face difficulties in coming months because of possibly higher prices and lower aid shipments.

A Geneva-based trader said Friday: "If I were a potential buyer my personal feeling is I'd start looking now as prices may be even higher later."

The market will closely watch the Soviet Union and China, the most unpredictable buyers, and to a lesser extent India.

Just before release of the American crop figures, the Soviet Union bought soybean meal and corn for feeding to livestock from Argentina and Brazil — presumably under Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's drive to put

more meat on Soviet tables.

But European traders said most buyers had waited for the U.S. figures before making their moves.

Before the recent soybean and corn purchases, Moscow had been a cautious player, booking one million tonnes of U.S. corn in July by staying out of the wheat market.

"They're shopping for quotes," a Geneva-based trader said.

Some European traders said grain prices may dip after an initial flush of buying but added that the key will be in a few weeks' time when major buyers are expected to make their decisions.

Soyoil in Europe traded Friday six guilders (\$2.85) higher at 126 guilders (\$60) per 100 kilograms. Prices for soybean for feeding to livestock rose \$5 (\$8.55) to \$177 (\$302.50) a tonne at the London opening call.

EC hopes to cash in on drought in U.S.

Europe's farmers, harvesting a bumper grain crop, hope to cash in on the North American drought to boost their share of a U.S.-dominated world cereal market.

Traders and market analysts say handsome yields in Europe and the worst U.S. drought in 50 years are a recipe for fiercer trans-Atlantic competition in the grain trade.

"The European Community (EC) would like to use the North American drought to regain its traditional markets in the Third World which had been lost to the Americans," said an official at the French foreign trade ministry.

France, biggest agricultural power in the 12-member EC, is angry at what it sees as penetration of markets in North Africa and Latin America by the United States, the world's leading export.

European traders agree the drought is a golden opportunity to cut back EC grain surpluses with exports to the Soviet Union and elsewhere.

But officials at EC headquarters in Brussels have so far shown no sign they want to risk a new trans-Atlantic trade conflict. The United States and the Community narrowly averted one in 1986 over U.S. maize sales to Spain.

And analysts believe the EC will also want to avoid an aggressive export drive so as not to strain its budget with smug bigger handouts to farmers — it subsidises cereal exports — as well as to avoid arousing the wrath of the U.S. Congress.

Also at stake is the current round of world trade negotiations in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which are taking place against a background of charges of unfair subsidies on both sides of the Atlantic.

Traders polled by Reuters correspondents therefore predict a rise in EC exports as a result of the U.S. drought but say farmers will not get a walkover.

"The Americans are maintaining a very competitive edge, so the Community is still facing stiff competition," said Brian Gardner of Research Policy Analysis Brussels.

Traders in West Germany say world grain demand is likely to remain stagnant or decline slightly, particularly as the Soviet Union, the biggest importer, looks set to bring in a good crop.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts that EC wheat exports will rise this year to 29.7 million tonnes from 27.68 million. Exports of coarse grains used mainly for animal feed will grow to 22.79 million tonnes from 19.97 million.

European traders calculate that the EC could capture 18 per cent of the world grain market this year, up from around 14 per cent last year.

Rising prices of U.S. maize and soybeans also give European farmers a chance to regain the animal feed market, where cheaper American products have been squeezing out domestic grains.

French analysts reckon that European farmers lost five million tonnes last year in the animal feed market to U.S. imports. But traders say they could regain up to half of that figure this year.

The EC cereal harvest this year is expected to rise to 160.5 million tonnes, comfortably up from 154.4 million last year, according to Cereals, the EC cereal traders' organisation.

If this is correct, it will mean a three-per-cent price cut for EC farmers as it just tops a 160 million tonne ceiling agreed in February as a trigger for subsidy reductions.

But many analysts say member states may understate crop figures to avoid price cuts.

France is heading for a near-record wheat harvest of 29 million tonnes but this has been balanced by poor crop outlooks

in Italy.

GNP may fall

In Washington, the U.S. drought will reduce American economic growth by 0.3 to 0.4 percentage points during 1988, a report by the White House inter-agency drought task force said Friday.

The estimates, however, do not represent an official revision in the White House projection of a 3.0 per cent rise in the gross national product (GNP) from the fourth quarter 1987 to the fourth quarter 1988.

On July 15, the task force estimated that the drought would reduce GNP growth by 0.2 percentage points. Since then the drought has spread and estimates of crop losses have grown.

"Despite recent rains, the drought of 1988 approaches the severity of the worst droughts on record," the task force said. Extreme or severe drought conditions now affect 43 per cent of the nation, compared with 62 per cent at the height of the 1934 drought, 48 per cent in 1956, and 46 per cent in 1936.

The severe drought does not substantially alter the prospects for the performance of the U.S. economy in 1988 and 1989," the report said. "Nevertheless, temporary fluctuations in estimated real GNP growth may be experienced in the next few quarters because of the drought."

The report increased its estimate of drought-induced farm production losses to between \$11 billion and \$15 billion in real terms, based on 1982 farm prices. The July 15 report estimated \$5 billion to \$10 billion in losses.

Thursday the U.S. Agriculture Department estimated that U.S. farmers would produce 31 per cent less grain this year in 1987.

Actual farm income is expected to remain about the same in 1987, the report said, because farmers will sell inventory on hand, and crop prices are higher, the report said.

The total value of farm exports also is expected to increase in both 1988 and 1989, due to the higher prices.

"For other sectors of the economy, the full impacts of the drought are not yet known," the task force said. It continued to estimate damage from disrupted barge traffic at \$1 billion.

In addition, the task force retained its estimate that higher food prices caused by the drought would increase the inflation rate by 0.2 percentage points in 1988 and 0.3 points in 1989.

they imported each year.

"If the new deals are a sign that Algeria is softening its attitude, we could have a new agreement by the autumn," one informed French industry source said.

France buys 9.15 billion cubic metres of liquefied natural gas a year from Algeria.

But since July, 1986, it has refused to pay a 30 per cent premium over market rates demanded by Algeria, which adds up to a total of four billion francs.

The two countries' state gas concerns, Gaz De France and Sonatrach, fixed a temporary gas price in March, 1986, to help tide Algeria over a slump in oil prices that year.

But, when the oil market recovered, the price of Algerian gas soared. Negotiations for a follow-up contract have never been successfully completed.

Contracts replace lifetime employment in Peking

PEKING (AP) — Enterprises in Peking will employ only contract workers within five years, China's leading newspaper said Saturday, heralding the move as a blow against China's system of lifetime employment.

The People's Daily (*Renmin Ribao*) said that under the contract system enterprises would be able to fire workers. The workers will then "either find a way out for themselves or enter the ranks of the unemployed."

"This will finally break the iron rice bowl," the newspaper said, referring to China's old system that guaranteed workers a job for life regardless of their abilities or results.

Under the reforms pushed for the last decade by Deng Xiaoping, China has been trying to include elements of a market economy into its state-run system. The government says factories that lose money should be allowed to go bankrupt and workers who don't do their jobs should be fired.

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 13, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	74456	JD 110121	158
Top three companies:			
Arab Bank Limited	240	JD 25778	11
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	9850	JD 16066	22
Parallel market:	5249	JD 2355	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

## ABA to open main office in Amman

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Arab Bankers Association (ABA) is currently making preparations to open a banking training institute to be headquartered in Amman to further bolster cooperation among Arab banks and among bankers, according to ABA member and chairman of the board of directors of the Cairo-Amman Bank Jawdat Sha'sha.

He told the first session of a training course for senior bank officials from 12 Arab countries that banks in Arab countries in general and Jordan in particular are called upon to help set up the projected institute by providing financial help and sending its staff for training in various banking services.

The success of ABA so far greatly depended on Arab banks support, Sha'sha said.

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Hussein Al Qasem made the opening speech at the first session of the six-day course which was attended by 35 delegates.

Qasem said that sound banking operations rely greatly on sound internal organisation, control and accomplishment of services on schedule.

Qasem said that the Arab central banks have issued proper regulations which are designed to help organise and control the work of banks. The present training course, he said, will address matters related to internal control of operations.

The London-based ABA was founded in 1980 with the purpose of coordinating interests of Arab bankers, improving relations with other countries, preparing studies for development projects in the Arab World, administering a

code for arbitration between financial institutions and providing training for Arab bankers.

## Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Aug. 6, '88 and ending Wednesday Aug. 10, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank	1255	1845	1.500	1.470	1.000
Petra Bank	5000	9850	1.970	1.970	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	897	1536	1.710	1.720	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	3887	5488	1.410	1.410	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	40979	50174	1.250	1.220	1.000
Housing Bank	452	834	1.860	1.850	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	756	11151	14.860	14.800	5.000
Arab Bank	854	91527	109.000	107.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	13425	32308	2.520	2.500	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	12780	11787	0.920	0.930	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	31300	54827	2.050	2.010	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	48300	25630	0.540	0.540	1.000
National Financial Investments	4425	7965	1.800	1.800	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	6936	4561	0.680	0.680	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	1700	2333	1.380	1.350	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	6149	4622	0.760	0.750	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	25	375	16.000	15.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
<b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>					
Jordan French Insurance	900	4123	4.600	4.350	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	600	540	0.940	0.900	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1500	1598	1.080	1.050	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	200	162	0.820	0.810	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahilya Insurance	5242	6395	1.230	1.220	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	1800	1692	0.970	0.940	1.000
Universal Insurance	15150	13631	1.110	0.810	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
General Investments	50	65	1.260	1.290	1.000
Ima for Investment and Financial Facilities	6124	4077	0.670	0.650	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	43949	22454	0.540	0.510	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	3000	1275	0.460	0.410	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	6512	1826	0.800	0.280	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	144	93	0.600	0.650	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipment	1543	294	0.700	0.700	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	3900	1053	0.780	0.770	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	40150	7777	0.210	0.200	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	7603	12079	1.660	1.580	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	1900	1672	0.880	0.880	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	27771	11437	0.410	0.410	1.000
Jordan Dairy	5485	5375	0.980	0.980	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	6730	12944	1.970	1.920	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	36730	44459	1.250	1.220	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	16007	40814	2.530	2.550	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	8665	10592	1.250	1.210	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	26600	32488	1.210	1.220	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	26854	42685	1.630	1.620	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	815	3749	4.600	4.600	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	594	722	1.230	1.220	1.000
Chemical Industries	1350	1959	1.510	1.450	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	9250	5587	0.620	0.620	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	4737	7183	1.530	1.530	1.000
National Steel Industries	15900	41928	2.690	2.620	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	2260	3295	1.510	1.490	5.000
General Mining	200	265	1.310	1.330	1.000
Jordan Refinery	7212	53285	7.390	7.400	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	178050	35990	0.210	0.210	1.000
National Industries	1300	507	0.410	0.390	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	8475	9334	1.130	1.100	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	1916	2326	1.250	1.210	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	767	575	0.800	0.750	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	5356	16536	3.120	3.070	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	52500	30841	0.610	0.600	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Hinch Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	3108	6219	2.010	2.000	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	14	203	14.500	14.500	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	37330	36662	0.990	0.990	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	35446	26188	0.760	0.750	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	13404	29853	2.550	2.490	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	55902	66973	1.230	1.200	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	2713	2546	0.950	0.940	1.000
Grand total	912,818	982,339			

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## A HOUSE IN WESTERN SHMEISANI FOR RENT

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# SPORTS IN BRIEF

## Aouita wins comfortable 800 metres

BUDAPEST (R) — Said Aouita ran cleverly and comfortably within his limits to hold off Senegal's Moussa Fall and win the 800 metres at the Budapest Grand Prix athletics meeting Friday. Gaining valuable experience for his attempt at an 800 and 1,500 metres double at the Seoul Olympics next month, Aouita cruised to victory in one minute 45.42 seconds. Although he was well short of the best time in the world this year — American Johnny Gray's 1:43.70 — the Moroccan double world record holder ran an impressive tactical race. He held back as the nine runners broke from their lanes on the back straight, then cruised past to tuck into second place for the rest of the first lap. Fall made his move with 350 metres to go, taking the lead and causing Aouita to lengthen his stride. Into the home straight Aouita kicked, went past Fall with 80 metres to go and held off the Senegalese's counter-attack to win by one metre. Fall clocked 1:45.66 and Dieudonne Kwizera of Burundi was third in 1:45.96.

## Soviet soccer clubs to pay their own way

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet soccer clubs will soon have to pay their own way as Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroika" restructuring programme spreads to sport. The official TASS news agency said the government had on Friday endorsed a document which will put individual soccer clubs on a self-accounting and self-financing basis. Each club will be able to set up specialised shops and cafes, produce sports souvenirs and advertise, TASS said. But it did not make clear what would happen to proceeds of ticket sales or whether players would be bought and sold as in Western soccer leagues. Soviet soccer clubs have traditionally been supported by the state. Most are at present attached to large organisations such as trade unions, factories, ministries or the army. But a debate has been raging here for years over whether Soviet sportsmen should be allowed to turn professional. National soccer coach Valery Lobanovsky has said it is time to recognise some sportsmen as professional in all but name. TASS said a new Soviet soccer union grouping players, coaches and referees would also be set up, aimed at giving them a greater say in the running of the game. Its first conference would be held soon.

## Fenech wants to unify boxing titles

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian Jeff Fenech wants to unify the three world featherweight titles after his destruction of Tyrone Downes of Trinidad in five rounds to retain the World Boxing Council (WBC) crown. Fenech, who scored his 18th win inside the distance in 21 unbeaten fights Friday night, said he would try

to bring the WBC, World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) titles under one umbrella before deciding whether to move up to junior-lightweight. The way Fenech recovered from a badly cut eye in the first round to knock down Downes four times before the referee stopped the fight in the fifth convinced the man they call the Marrickville Mauler he is one of the world's best. "I wanted to show the people, not just here in Australia but all around the world that Australia has got the best fighter pound for pound in the world — south of Mike Tyson," he said.

## Edberg on top of ATP list

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP) — Stefan Edberg, champion of the 1987 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Championship, is the man to beat in this year's ATP tournament which starts with qualifying rounds Saturday. Play in the \$485,000 tournament begins Monday, also at the Jack Nicklaus sports centre 20 miles (32 kilometres) north of Cincinnati. Edberg, the defending champ at Wimbledon as well as the ATP, was virtually certain to be top-ranked for this year's ATP Championship, officials said. Tournament officials conducted the draw late Friday afternoon. Diane Crawford, of the ATP organisation in Arlington, Texas, said the ATP Championship's seedings were being based on Aug. 8 computer rankings of the world's top tennis players, which had Edberg rated No. 1. This year's ATP Championship field also features past ATP singles champ Mats Wilander, Jimmy Connors, Pat Cash and Miroslav Mecir. Tournament director Paul Flory said he tried to also recruit Yannick Noah and Guy Forget, but failed to get their commitments.

## USA defeats Cuba in women's basketball

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Katrina McClain's 20 points led five players in double figures Friday night as the U.S. Olympic women's basketball team beat Cuba 119-58 in an exhibition game which nearly was postponed after the arena scoreboard crashed to the floor nine hours earlier. Both teams were scheduled to practice in the new \$52 million Charlotte coliseum during the morning, but the 20-ton, \$1.2 million scoreboard crashed to the court prior to the practices. Officials of the exhibition scrambled to clear the wreckage and replace the damaged floor. Coach Kay Yow's pressure defence shut down the Cuban attack seven minutes into the first half. Of Cuba's 19 turnovers in the first half, eight were committed in a two-minute stretch in which they got off just one shot. In that time, the United States went on a 17-0 run that propelled them to a 35-17 lead on Bridgette Gordon's basket with 9:02 left in the period. Cuba broke the drought on a three-point play by Beatriz Perdomo with 8:36 left in the first half, but the United States went on another run, a 13-0 spurt which ended on a fast-break basket by McClain with 4:23 left and gave the U.S. a 53-23 advantage.

## WBA to crown Molineras as champ

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The World Boxing Association (WBA) said Friday it would crown Tomas Molineras as world welterweight champion despite the New Jersey State Athletic Commission's decision to void his victory over Marlon Starling. "The Colombian Tomas Molineras, new champion of the welterweight division of the WBA, will be recognised by the principal authorities of this organisation," the WBA said in a statement from its headquarters in Maracay, Venezuela. The WBA said Molineras would be honoured at a special ceremony "in which he will be presented with the sash that accredits him as the new world monarch at 147 pounds." The statement said WBA president Gilberto Mendoza will go to Barranquilla, Colombia Saturday for the crowning ceremony. In their July 30 title fight in Atlantic City, Molineras knocked out the American Starling with a punch apparently delivered a fraction of second after the bell sounded to end the sixth round. Referee Joe Cortez declared the blow valid. On Thursday, New Jersey Athletic Commissioner Larry Hazzard said Molineras' victory would not be recognised because the punch came late.

## Poll says Americans think it unfair fight

SAN DIEGO (R) — Most Americans think it isn't fair that two radically different boats will race for the America's Cup next month, according to results of a national poll commissioned by the New Zealand challengers. The survey of 1,050 Americans conducted this week by the Gallup organisation showed that 53 per cent believed it was not fair that the San Diego defenders were racing a catamaran against the monohulled sloop of New Zealand. Thirty-four per cent said it was fair and 13 per cent said they didn't know. "This is the ultimate proof of the American sense of fair play," said Michael Fay, who heads the Challengers' Syndicate. "Now we are clear on the difference between the Sail America way and the American way." Sail America officials told Reuters they could not comprehend the significance of the poll. "It's hard to comment on something that has no meaning," said Tom Mitchell. "Maybe Fay will be kissing babies next week." The best-of-three series for the cup is scheduled to begin on Sept. 7.

## Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league baseball standings after Friday's games:

### American League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	68	46	.596	—
Boston	65	50	.565	3 1/2
New York	63	49	.563	4
Milwaukee	60	57	.513	9 1/2
Toronto	59	58	.504	10 1/2
Cleveland	54	62	.466	15
Baltimore	37	77	.325	31

### West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	74	43	.632	—
Minnesota	64	50	.561	8 1/2
Kansas City	59	55	.513	14
California	58	58	.500	15 1/2
Texas	50	63	.442	22
Chicago	51	65	.440	22 1/2
Seattle	44	72	.379	29 1/2

### National League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	68	47	.591	—
Montreal	62	52	.544	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	63	53	.543	5 1/2
Chicago	55	58	.487	12
Philadelphia	51	64	.443	17
St. Louis	51	64	.443	17

### West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	64	50	.561	—
Houston	62	52	.539	2 1/2
San Francisco	61	54	.530	3 1/2
Cincinnati	57	57	.500	7
San Diego	54	61	.470	10 1/2
Atlanta	40	75	.348	24 1/2

## Brazil names Olympic soccer squad

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Brazilian team coach Carlos Alberto Silva Friday named 20 players to the Olympic soccer squad but threatened to leave the team if players on foreign clubs don't show up for training.

Starters Andrade, Valdo and Edmar recently transferred to European clubs, and it was unclear whether they would be released to play for the Brazilian national team. The 20-player squad named Friday was essentially the same team that in June won the Bicentennial Tournament in Australia. But there were a few surprises.

Neto, a 21-year-old midfielder of Guarani, was named for the first time to the national squad. Neto has been a standout for Guarani during its excellent campaign in the recent Sao Paulo State Championship and the current liberators of America Cup tournament. Attackers Bebeto, of Flamengo, and Joao Paulo, of Guarani, also were named again to the national team after a one-year hiatus.

However, Silva said he would not tolerate a repeat of the confusion that preceded a recent European exhibition tour, when many starters didn't show up because they were negotiating their transfer to foreign clubs and there weren't enough players to hold practice. "It won't happen again because I'll only show up if all the players do too," Silva said Friday. The players were to report Tuesday for medical exams and start training immediately in the mountain resort town of Teresopolis, near Rio.

# Woodforde ousts McEnroe, reaches semifinals of Canadian Open tennis

TORONTO (R) — Australian Mark Woodforde scored another major upset by using his head as well as a barrage of well-placed passing shots to beat John McEnroe to reach the semifinals of the Canadian Open tennis tournament Friday.

Evert to meet Rehe in semifinals

In Los Angeles, Chris Evert recovered from an early lapse to beat fellow-American Patty Fendick Friday and advance to the semifinals of the \$300,000 Los Angeles women's tennis tournament.

Evert, playing in her first tournament since her recent marriage, won the last eight games in taking a 6-4, 6-0 victory over the sixth-seeded Fendick.

Opposing the top-seeded Evert in Saturday's semifinals will be Stephanie Rehe who upset fourth seed Lori McNeil 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. The other semifinal will have third seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina playing fifth-seeded American Zina Garrison.

Sabatini beat seventh seed Anne Minter of Australia 6-2, 6-4, while Garrison crushed her 15-year-old compatriot Amy Frazier 6-1, 6-2 to advance.

Evert, third in the world, raced to a 4-1 lead in the first set, playing her usual baseline game and keeping the aggressive Fendick away from the net with her passing shots.

Evert said she was not surprised by her first-set lapse.

Woodforde, who earlier eliminated second-seeded Sweden Stefan Edberg, beat the eighth-seeded McEnroe 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 to earn a semifinals match against Kevin Curren.

Curren, the 14th seed, outlasted sixth-seeded fellow American Tim Mayotte 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 in his quarterfinal.

The other semifinal on Saturday will have top seed Ivan Lendl going against Jimmy Connors. Lendl swept past unseeded Australian John Hawley 6-2, 6-2, while the fourth-seeded Connors squeezed by fifth seed Pat Cash of Australia 7-6, 7-6 with a pair of tiebreaker decisions.

Woodforde, a 22-year-old red-headed left-hander who is ranked 50th in the world, fired in six aces and broke McEnroe twice in the first set.

After falling to McEnroe in the second set, Woodforde broke McEnroe to go up 3-2 and then again to take a 5-2 lead in the third set before serving out the match at love.

He buried his head in his hands and shook his head in disbelief as the crowd of 10,000 gave him a standing ovation after the match.

"Mark played an excellent match. He used his head very well and he mixed up his shots instead of just hitting balls as hard as he could," said McEnroe.

"I'd like to get another shot at him. He's a guy who has a chance to get into the top 25. He's a dangerous player," said McEnroe, who is currently ranked 17th. Woodforde, who had never before played McEnroe, was thrilled.

"John's one of the all-time greats. I just had to come out and play my best tennis," he said. Connors, 35, withstood court-side temperatures that hit 44 degrees Celsius in beating the 1987 Wimbledon champion.

Connors said he enjoyed the challenge but was glad his match ended when it did.

## AC Milan plays Bayern Munich in Wembley International Tournament

LONDON (AP) — Its image tarnished by a new wave of crowd violence, English soccer begins its reparation process Saturday when Wembley stadium stages a four-team tournament involving two of the biggest names in Europe — AC Milan and Bayern Munich.

Milan's Dutch soccer ace Ruud Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard, who powered their country to success in the European Championships, will be in action at the home of English soccer in a four-team competition which also features Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur.

Because of continued crowd violence involving its followers, English soccer has been ostracised from the rest of Europe at club level since the 1985 champions' cup final between Liverpool and Italy's Juventus in Brussels' Heysel stadium, where 39 people were killed a stampede caused by rioting fans.

Believing they had curbed the violence, English clubs asked to be readmitted. But following fresh outbreaks of trouble at the end of last season and at the European Championships, they withdrew their application.

Against a backdrop of elaborate measures to avoid crowd trouble at Wembley, two of England's most famous clubs will battle with Italy's AC Milan and West Germany's Bayern Munich Saturday and Sunday in a competition known as the Wembley International Tournament.

The two north London teams meet Saturday in a tournament opener, followed by the Milan-

Bayern clash. On Sunday, the winner of the first game plays the loser of the second, and the two other teams do battle in the final match.

To the teams, the competition is a pre-season warm-up along the lines of the San Francisco 49ers-Miami Dolphins football game at the same stadium two weeks ago.

In terms of crowd behaviour and the public spotlight, however, it is almost as vital as the Frank Bruno-Mike Tyson world heavyweight title fight to be staged at Wembley on Oct. 8.

In the wake of fan violence

involving English fans at the European Championships in West Germany, England's Football Association at first wanted the Wembley tournament called off, mindful of the further damage that could follow if Arsenal and Tottenham fans engaged in trouble.

But Wembley's vice chairman, Jarvis Astaire, who also has been busy arranging the Bruno-Tyson fight, said he was confident the world title contest would provide the only punches thrown inside the famous stadium in the foreseeable future.

## IOC launches 'ultimate attempt' for full participation at Seoul

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched an "ultimate attempt" Thursday to get all countries, including North Korea, to take part in the Summer Games starting next month. The plan calls for North and South Korea teams to march side by side at the opening and closing ceremonies in Seoul, South Korea, each carrying its own flag and preceded by a single Olympic flag.

"Such a highly symbolic event would allow the youth of Korea to show in the most striking way that it belongs to one and the same nation, and to demonstrate its strong desire for dialogue and reconciliation," IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch said in a letter sent Thursday to the heads of both countries' national Olympic committees.

An IOC official said the flag proposal was an additional effort made in conjunction with Samaranch's previous offer to have North Korea stage five events to meet its co-hosting demand. The official asked to remain unnamed.

The letter welcomed recently launched parliamentary exchanges between the two Koreas, whose bitter rivalry gained new dimensions after the South was awarded the games in 1981.

"The IOC is certain that all peace-loving men and women throughout the world will manifest their full support to this ultimate attempt to ensure" full participation at Seoul, the letter said.

## GOREN BRIDGE

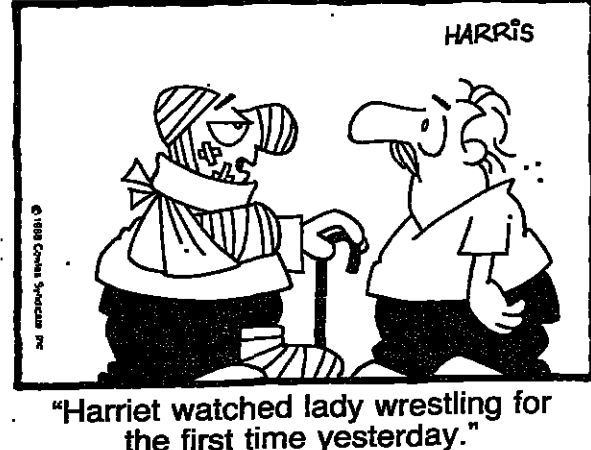
BY CHARLES GOREN AND MAJID SHARIF  
© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### A LITTLE LEARNING ISN'T ALWAYS DANGEROUS

Neither vulnerable. North deals. WEST: ♠ 7 3, ♥ Q 10 4 2, ♦ 8 6 5, ♣ J 8 4. EAST: ♠ 9 6 5, ♥ Void, ♦ Q J 10 3, ♣ A K Q 10 7 2. The bidding: North East South West 1 ♠ 2 ♣ 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass. Opening lead: Four of ♣. We have a friend, an old-time bridge player, who boasts of the fact that he plays "by the seat of his pants." From time to time we tell him that only proves that he is sitting on his brains—there is nothing wrong about learning something about the game from books and articles. Safety plays are a case in point. Four hearts is a perfectly normal contract to reach on the North-South hands. It was bid quickly, and lost just as fast.

## THE BETTER HALF.

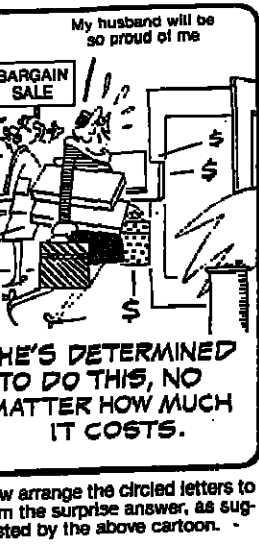
By Harris



## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUMEO  
LAVIA  
YOGAVE  
SAUNAE



Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOBLE DAILY FRIEZE 'TINIP  
Answer: What happens when two egos... have a falling out—IT'S AN "FOR AN"

Jordan Times  
Tel: 667171-6

## THE Daily Crossword by Virginia L. Yates

ACROSS

1. In Paris
2. Adherents
3. Suff.
10. Strong — ox
14. Good dishes
15. Overcharge
16. Shade of green
17. Clan symbol
18. Trait
20. — upman-
21. Fiddlisticks
22. — milk
24. Put back
26. Fr. friend
27. Count
28. Mud-
31. slingers
32. Starting point
36. Out
37. Poe or Pope
38. Ms MacGraw
39. " — jolly
40. good...
41. Bar. river
42. Listlessness
43. Precise
44. Light-Horse
45. Harry
46. TV talking
47. horse
48. At the drop of
49. a hat
50. -Bait user
53. Bathed
54. Doing
55. Intergo-
56. (the: abbr.)
57. Hint
58. Arisaa
59. mayfly
60. Diadem
61. Doing
62. Reproach
63. Huron's
64. neighbor
65. Gantry or Rice
66. Decays
67. Doing
68. Drop off
69. Legal papers

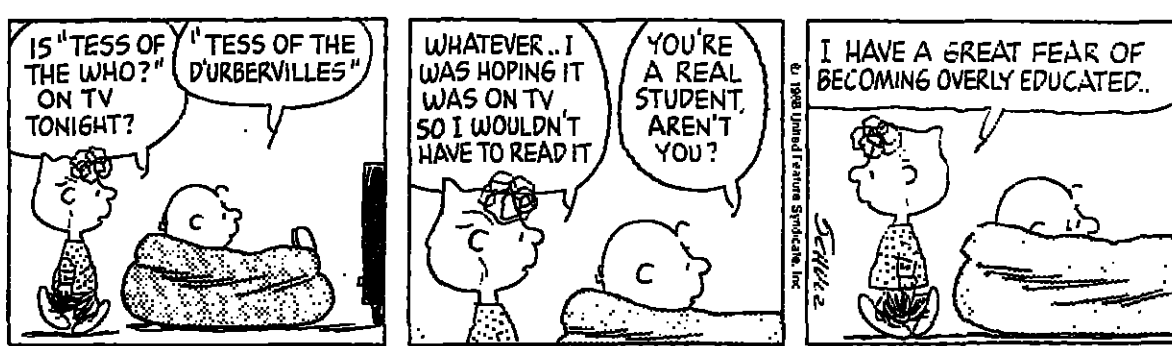
DOWN

1. Theapian
2. Call
3. Rituals
4. Adjective
5. suffix
6. Poke fun at
7. Edition
8. Full circles
9. Bombay
10. money
11. " — I saw, I
12. conquered
13. Enticed
14. Dined well
15. 53 Mogul
16. — no good
17. Young herring
18. 56 Test
19. 58 Ht letters
20. 51 — de France

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

CAIN CARIE HAM  
TOOE ALLAN MAMA  
YERDERFOOT TIAE  
SENIZE DISE ADIE  
ARRAS GANLEID  
PARAFERED FINE  
ACRUE INSIDE DAN  
TRAUDICE RESTORE  
REI PESTER AMIS  
RIT SOM ADIES  
PARSON BRACK  
ATRE ADE SHACK  
ROAR FOETHELING  
TIE ARITE UNLIS  
SIE LAISIE SOTIS

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp





# Tensions ease in Burma

**BANGKOK (R)** — Burmese took to the streets of Rangoon dancing and chanting to celebrate the resignation of hardline Socialist leader Sein Lwin after five days of bloody agitation against his brief rule, residents said.

"Our victory, people's victory," they chanted, crowding into suburban streets despite an overnight curfew after Rangoon radio announced Friday that Sein Lwin had quit just 18 days after taking over from his long-time mentor, Ne Win.

The news appeared to have brought a measure of calm to a country rocked since Monday by violent protests for democracy in which diplomats said hundreds of people were killed.

Residents and diplomats contacted from Bangkok said Rangoon was calm Saturday, with many of the protesters' barricades dismantled, shops re-opening and people returning to the city centre.

"There is a general air of returning normality," said one senior envoy.

One traveller arriving in Bangkok from Rangoon Saturday said

students who had led the protests told him the calm was likely to last until next Friday, when a successor to Sein Lwin was due to be chosen.

Sein Lwin, 64, whose appointment July 26 triggered the uprising, resigned Friday night as chairman of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) and state president.

Rangoon radio said the BSPP executive committee, its plituro, and parliament would meet next Friday to elect a successor.

Party and parliamentary military committees, the key organs which have ensured security in the 26 years of repressive BSPP rule, will meet Thursday.

"The students told me it would probably be quiet until next Thursday, but that if they don't get what they want maybe there'll be a return to the streets," said American Brett Lambert, who

flew to Bangkok after a week in Rangoon.

He said there was enormous relief among students over the resignation of Sein Lwin, the least popular man in the country for his long-time role in suppressing opposition.

"The group I was with when the announcement came cheered. But they couldn't go out in the streets because of the curfew," he said.

By official accounts almost 100 people have died as troops opened fire on mass demonstrations in cities across the country, but diplomats put the figure anywhere between 500 and 1,500.

Students told visitors the departure of Sein Lwin was just a first step and they were encouraged to pursue to the end their demand for a more democratic system.

Diplomats said it was difficult to predict what would happen next.

Few believed the BSPP would be willing to surrender the absolute grip on power it has held since it was formed after Ne Win took over in a 1962 coup.

An emergency party congress July 25 rejected a proposal by Ne Win in his final speech as leader that the people should be asked in a referendum whether the single-party system should be scrapped and the country be returned to multi-party democracy.

"Although one man (Sein Lwin) has been removed, the system is still in place," one diplomat said.

He said the party chiefs may be contemplating some form of collective leadership in place of the autocratic style of Ne Win, described by one ambassador as "an absolute dictator without whom nothing of significance was ever decided."

Ne Win's role in the present leadership crisis was not known and there was only speculation about possible future leaders. "People are waiting until next week to see who emerges," said one diplomat contacted from Bangkok.

A U.S. political scientist who has written several books on Burma said Friday he thought Kyaw Htin was a possible successor to Sein Lwin.



A South Korean student slings riot police helmets over his shoulder after radical students decided to return them to police. The helmets were captured in

a morning demonstration yesterday near the Korea University in Seoul.

## Seoul students battle police in effort to march to border

**SEOUL (AP)** — Radical students battled riot police in scattered clashes Saturday in an effort to break through human barriers aimed at preventing a march to the border for reunification talks with North Korean students.

Shopowners and residents near college campuses staged counter-demonstrations, urging students to halt unrest, which they said hurt business and would mar next month's Olympic Games in the capital.

Also Saturday, a senior government official said the govern-

ment was considering "a grave decision" this fall to protect the nation from leftist forces. Newspapers and political analysts interpreted the remarks as suggesting a crackdown on dissent after the games.

Kim Yong-Kap, the minister for government administration, accused the students of seeking to disrupt the Olympics and overthrow the government and said, "the government cannot but make a grave decision after the Olympics if the current political situation continues."

A former military officer, Kim

served as a senior intelligence official at the agency for National Security Planning, formerly called the KCIA, under the authoritarian government of former President Chun Doo-Hwan.

Kim accused college students of "seeking to disrupt the Olympics and overthrow the government by seizing on unification," a sensitive national concern for the Korean peninsula, which was divided in 1945 into the Communist North and Capitalist South. The division deepened after the Korean War in 1950-53.

## Laurel urges Aquino to quit

**MANILA (AP)** — Vice President Salvador Laurel Saturday accused President Corazon Aquino of incompetence and urged her to resign.

He called for new elections and said he would resign if Aquino did.

In a four-page letter that he read to reporters, Laurel accused Aquino of weak leadership against communist insurgency and of tolerating corruption on the scale of her deposed predecessor, Ferdinand Marcos.

"The responsibility to take the essential step to ease the nation's suffering is yours alone and I would not wish to usurp it,"

Laurel said. "E • if, in your conscience, you feel you must now make the supreme sacrifice by stepping down from the presidency and call for an immediate election to enable the people to choose another leader for these critical times, I want you to know that I am ready to make the same sacrifice with you."

Aquino gave no direct response to Laurel's resignation call.

But at the end of a news conference called to announce an oil-price rollback, Aquino charged that Laurel had not supported her enough, especially during coup attempts in November 1986 and last August.

Aquino said when she called members of her cabinet to an urgent meeting during a November 1986 coup attempt, Laurel did not show up until late in the afternoon "because he was playing golf."

"Can you imagine what would have happened if I waited for him while he played golf?" Aquino said.

Aquino and Laurel were initially rivals for the opposition presidential candidacy when Marcos called a special election in February 1986. Laurel gave way after being persuaded that only Aquino could unite the splintered opposition.



Salvador H. Laurel

## Defiant Noriega marks fifth anniversary in power

**PANAMA CITY, (R)** — Military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega, marking his fifth anniversary as head of the Panama defence forces Friday, said the United States would have to put up with him.

In a speech during a military and popular celebration of the anniversary, Noriega told the United States: "Keep your hands off of Panama."

"Forget about Noriega," he said. "Maybe Noriega is better than what is to come. Therefore it's preferable to put up with Noriega."

The United States is backing moves to force its former ally out of power and tried to negotiate a deal last May by which Noriega would step down in exchange for the dropping of two Florida indictments against him on drug trafficking charges.

But the talks collapsed and U.S. policy as well as the opposition movement in Panama have fallen into disarray as Noriega remains confident and in control.

Noriega addressed military and civilian dignitaries Friday and thousands of supporters gathered at a Panamanian air base for the anniversary celebration that included a military parade and a 21-gun salute.

The 50-year-old general's only reference to the elections was to repeat assurances that they would be honest.

## Contras reject Ortega offer for peace talks

**QUITO, Ecuador (AP)** — A Nicaraguan rebel leader has rejected President Daniel Ortega's offer to renew peace talks in Managua, saying the "climate doesn't exist" for negotiations in the capital city.

Ortega made his offer for new peace talks in Managua or Washington Friday during an official visit to Ecuador, following the inauguration of Ecuador's new president. He also criticised the U.S. Congress for approving new aid to the rebels, calling it an act of "aggression" and demanding that aid be halted.

Dolfo Calero, the rebel leader, Friday reiterated contra lead-

ers' rejections of Managua as the site for more peace talks and also set several preconditions for the rebels' return to the bargaining table, including that Ortega attend future talks.

Representatives of the left-wing Sandinista government and the U.S.-backed rebels, known as contras, agreed on a cease-fire March 23 under a regional peace plan that Ortega and four other Central American presidents signed in Aug. 1987.

The cease-fire often has been violated but extended by both sides, most recently by Nicaragua unilaterally until Aug. 30.

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York has rated the film as morally offensive, meaning it is regarded as unsuitable for showing to the 53 million Catholics in the United States.

The picture, which cost only \$6.5 million to make and would normally be given only a limited showing as an art film, packed both Los Angeles cinemas in which it was shown Friday night.

"We know controversy sells tickets, but we are also concerned about violence," an official of Universal Studios, which is distributing the film, said.

The film shows a dream sequence in which Jesus, played by Willem Dafoe, of the Vietnam war film "Platoon," makes love to Mary Magdalene.

In New York, another of the eight cities chosen for the first showing of the film, 1,000 people lined up to see the film at the Ziegfeld Theatre while 300 demonstrators staged protests.

Religious groups also staged small, colourful demonstrations outside cinemas in Chicago, Washington, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis and Toronto. In San Francisco, a demonstrator carried a 10-foot cross and another carried a banner reading "Hollywood's darkest hour."

Scorsese, a Roman Catholic, has pointed out the film is based on a 1955 novel, "The Last Temptation of Christ," by the late Greek writer Nikos Kazantzakis, and not on the gospel accounts of Jesus.

Similar protests have greeted other recent films with religious subjects.

In November of 1985, Pope John Paul led thousands of Catholics in reciting a rosary to "repair" the damage done to the Virgin Mary by the French film "Hail Mary," then playing in Rome.

## Walesa marks anniversary of strikes

**GDANSK, Poland (AP)** — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa laid a wreath Friday at a monument to fallen shipyard workers in a ceremony marking the eighth anniversary of strikes that launched the now outlawed trade union.

A Solidarity spokeswoman said about 2,000 shipyard workers and other solidarity supporters attended the ceremony near the entrance to the Lenin shipyard. The crowd chanted Solidarity slogans, waved banners and sang the national anthem, said Joanna Wojciechowska.

Walesa, wearing a Solidarity T-shirt, helped put wreaths and flowers on the monument, erected to honour striking ship-



Lech Walesa

yard workers killed by security forces during labour unrest in 1970.

The ceremony was held two days before the official 1980 strike anniversary, which falls on a Sunday this year, to allow more workers to attend, said the solidarity spokeswoman.

## Fire put out at Empire State building

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A smoky two-alarm fire broke out Friday on the 86th floor of the Empire State building and moved up a shaftway to the top floor of the 102-story skyscraper before it was extinguished, the fire department said.

It took nearly two hours to put out the fires, and three firefighters required treatment for heat and smoke in the 34-degree cel-

sus weather. There was no immediate word on its cause.

One building occupant suffered a cut on the arm but declined treatment, fire department spokesman John Mulligan said.

No people were trapped, and there was no general evacuation, but people from the smokier upper floor were brought out from the landmark skyscraper, the city's second-tallest.

The 86th and 102nd floors are the sites of the building's popular observation decks, and tourists were evacuated from both.

Bishop described damage as moderate in the utility shaft.

Firefighters sped to the building after an alarm was telephoned at 1:01 p.m. (17:01 GMT) by building employees who discovered the fire in a utility room on the 86th floor, said Mulligan.

## Namibians sceptical of S. African proposals

By Greg Myre  
The Associated Press

**WINDHOEK** — The people of Namibia also known as South-West Africa, war-weary and deeply sceptical after 22 years of fighting, see major obstacles to independence despite South African proposals to withdraw from the continent's last colony.

South Africa joined an Angolan war cease-fire Aug. 8, said it will pull out of Angola by Sept. 1, and tentatively plans to begin withdrawing Nov. 1 from neighbouring Namibia.

South Africa has offered to grant Namibia independence next June 1 if Cuba agrees to remove its 50,000 troops from Angola by that date.

Most Namibians, who have been ruled by Germans and South Africans for more than a century, are aching for both peace and independence.

But they have had their hopes repeatedly raised — and dashed — ever since the United Nations Security Council in 1978 passed Resolution 435 calling for Namibian independence and U.N.-supervised elections.

"The words we are hearing today are the same words we

heard 10 years ago," said Danny Tjongarero, a spokesman for the legal, political wing of the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO). "I'd like to be optimistic, but South Africa has proved ingenious in finding excuses to block Namibian independence," he said.

SWAPO's outlawed guerrilla movement has been fighting since 1966 to win independence for the mineral-rich territory, which is larger than France and West Germany combined but has only 1.3 million residents. SWAPO is considered likely to win independence elections due to its strong support in the north, where most of the population is concentrated.

South Africa calls SWAPO a terrorist organisation intent on establishing a Marxist state. Many Namibians doubt South Africa's sincerity in proposing elections within a year that are likely to lead to SWAPO government.

South Africa, with backing from the United States, argues that Namibian independence must be linked with the Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

The Cubans support Angola's Marxist government in the 13-year-old Angolan war, while the United States and South

Africa aid the UNITA rebel movement.

South Africa, Cuba, Angola and U.S. mediators plan to hold further talks the week of Aug. 22 in a bid to establish a date for the Cuban withdrawal and independence for Namibia. Without an agreement, Namibian independence plans appear headed for another derailment.

Namibian leaders have been excluded from the peace talks and have been briefed by the South Africans only after proposals and agreements have been announced.

"We know all the participants in the talks still have tricks up their sleeve," said Andreas Shipanga, a black cabinet minister in Namibia's multiracial interim government, established in 1985 to pave the road for independence.

Asked if he thought Namibia would be independent by June 1, Shipanga said: "I'd like to hope so, but I don't believe so."

South Africa has contributed to the scepticism by sending conflicting signals about its intentions in Namibia.

South African President

P.W. Botha paid a rare visit to Namibia in April and reiterated his government's commitment to white "group rights," which allow for ethnically based political structures and segregated schools and hospitals.

Botha also extended the powers of Louis Pienaar, the territory's appointed administrator general. Most Namibians condemned the actions and said they showed South Africa intended to maintain a firm grip on the territory it has administered since capturing it from Germany in 1915.

The League of Nations in 1920 authorised South Africa to govern the territory, but the league's successor, the United Nations revoked the mandate in 1966.

South Africa's offer to grant independence June 1 marks the first time it has set a target date for leaving Namibia.

But South Africa also raised several unresolved questions, such as who will help pay Namibia's bills and guarantee its loans once South Africa departs.

The announcement caught many in Namibia by surprise. Some say a sudden rush to independence could lead to

chaos in a territory that has more than 40 political parties and 11 ethnic groups ranging from the nomadic Bushmen to a 20,000-strong German community.

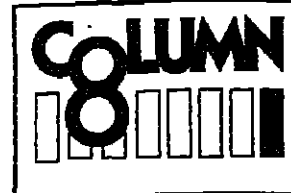
"The whites are very worried and you will see an exodus to some extent," said Kosi Pretorius, a cabinet minister and head of the all-white National Party. "We are concerned about the economy, about losing our cultural identity and about being dominated by a black majority government."

When it appeared Namibia was close to independence in 1978, some 25,000 whites — 25 per cent of the white population — fled the territory. Most went to South Africa.

The 75,000 remaining whites make up only 6 per cent of the population, but they pay almost 90 per cent of the personal income taxes and run the mining industry, the country's largest source of revenue.

"We can't afford to scare whites out of Namibia and open ourselves to destabilisation," said Moses Katjuongwa, a black cabinet minister.

"Independence will create its own problems, but we can't go backwards now," he said.



## Man takes lengthy detour to the dentist

**PELL CITY, Alabama (AP)** — A man who took a 1,800-kilometre detour when he got lost on his way to the dentist finally ended up in the chair and got new dentures — for free — but not before his new driver also got lost. Frank Collier, a 76-year-old retired mill worker from Centerville, received national attention last month when he lost his way while driving to get his new dentures from a Pell City clinic 120 kilometres from his home. Collier, who had never left west Alabama except for one other trip to Pell City, ended up on an interstate highway and drove all the way to Muncie, Indiana, 901-kilometres journey. Police assisted him with directions and in getting in touch with relatives and friends, who drove him back. "I got on that interstate and didn't know how to get off," he said Thursday. "I just kept a-go-in, kept a-go-in," right out of the state, almost out of the country."

## Dukakis sleeps in Taylor's bed

**RICHMOND, Virginia (R)** — Michael Dukakis told a breakfast audience Friday he had spent the previous night in Elizabeth Taylor's bed. The Democratic presidential candidate was a guest in Virginia's 175-year-old governor's mansion Thursday night during a campaign stop. He told a breakfast reception of party leaders afterward: "I never thought that I would sleep in a bed that the Marquis de Lafayette had slept in, that Winston Churchill had slept in, Dwight David Eisenhower had slept in, Elizabeth Taylor had slept in..." The last name brought a roar of laughter from the crowd and the Massachusetts governor quickly added a tribute to his wife Kitty, standing with him on the platform.

## Baldness remedy close to approval

**KALAMAZOO, Michigan (AP)** — A remedy for baldness developed by the Upjohn company is one step closer to final U.S. government approval, company officials have announced. The Kalamazoo-based pharmaceutical company said it received an "approvable letter" from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for its topical minoxidil preparation for the treatment of male pattern baldness, developed under the trade name Rogaine. An approvable letter is "historically the last step before final approval" for marketing, company spokesman R.D. Larue said.

## York County taxes much too high

**YORK, Pennsylvania (AP)** — Everybody complains that their taxes are too high, but hundreds of York County residents really had something to gripe about. More than 400 people received personal property tax bills this week in excess of \$1 million, including one woman who got one for \$21 million. The error affected about five per cent of 8,000 property owners and kept assessment office phones ringing for two days. The annual tax bills cover personal property, such as stocks and other investments. Chief assessor Steve Anderson blamed the mix-up on new employees in the personal property tax division entering data incorrectly on a new computer system.

## Woodstock troubles town residents

**BETHEL, New York (AP)** — Woodstock, the rock 'n' roll festival that came to symbolise the 1960s for a generation of Americans, is again at the centre of a controversy, this time over how big its 20th anniversary celebration should be. On one side is the Bethel Town Board, which meets Wednesday night to discuss whether to allow voters decide what to do about next August's anniversary. On the other side are concert promoters who want to re-create the original Woodstock, which wasn't actually held in that town but kilometres away on Max Yasgur's farm in Bethel. Town supervisor Alan Scott said Bethel is against any extravaganza on the scale of the first Woodstock, which drew nearly a half million people and endured heavy rains, lack of food and sanitation facilities, drug overdoses and enormous traffic jams. And promoters want to capitalise on the good memories that the festival left in the minds of a generation. Woodstock came to symbolise the sexual freedom, hedonism and radical politics that developed in the 1960s.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Mandela hospitalised for lung trouble

**CAPE TOWN (R)** — Jailed South African nationalist leader Nelson Mandela is being treated in hospital for fluid around the lung, a hospital spokesman said Saturday. Dr. J. Strauss, superintendent at Cape Town's Tygerberg hospital, said in a statement that Mandela, 70, imprisoned for life in 1964, was admitted Friday and was undergoing tests for a "left-sided pleural effusion." "He is comfortable and in a satisfactory condition," Strauss added.

### Pakistan to lease U.S. frigates